

Mrs Thatcher ready to defy EEC on budget

Mrs Thatcher made it clear in a Commons statement yesterday that the Government was ready to engage the EEC and withhold VAT concessions if no budget agreement was reached. Speakers on both sides of the House were highly critical of EEC policies.

Angry anti-Brussels food in Commons

Mrs Thatcher again upped the Government's ante for an EEC agreement by telling the Commons yesterday she would not accept a VAT concession which would allow the EEC to impose a 42 per cent of our gross contribution, of roughly £2,000m. Our net contribution is estimated at more than £1,000m, so clearly by withholding VAT Britain could almost bridge the gap.

But the Community crisis would be enormous. The VAT money is not regarded as belonging to Britain but as being part of the Community's own resources. In which Britain, like other members, merely acts as the Community's tax collector.

Yet Mrs Thatcher heads towards the Brussels summit with the probable support of a large majority in the Commons. On Monday night there is to be a three-hour debate on the issue. The Government seeks support in its position, but an ardent Opposition amendment seeks to incorporate the demand to withhold Britain's contribution to the Community.

It was Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition, who elicited Mrs Thatcher's clarification yesterday. Was she still trying to get "her money" back, or was she willing to compromise through, perhaps, a package deal? And would she maintain the present policy of freezing on agricultural products that were in surplus?

Mrs Thatcher was at her most admonitory. She remained, as at Dublin, ready for compromise but with little room for manoeuvre. She wanted to see that "we should continue to have no doubt of our willingness to withhold VAT as a last resort."

There would be no package deal, she implied. Items like fish, agricultural prices, and the most needed to be settled but "we should continue to have no doubt of our willingness to withhold VAT as a last resort."

With the Cabinet apparently having had its last presumptive discussion on it, Mrs Thatcher introduced VAT in the Commons yesterday. It was 1978 when the "resources" system was paying a portion of the Community's VAT.

It was assumed huge profits in 1980. It is not clear if it is a VAT concession or a VAT concession. It would amount to £800m.

Minister's scathing reply to M Chirac

On agriculture, said that radical changes were needed, and that the Community would bring great problems it would also bring some benefits.

Mr Walker used the debate to deliver a scathing reply to M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, who on Tuesday attacked Britain for acting illegally in the Community.

"The only country in Europe that has not accepted the rules, that is acting illegally, the only government in the history of the Community that has decided to ignore the decision of the European Court for more than six months, is France," he said.

Mr Walker declared: "I am not a lawyer, but I am a politician."

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Soames tied to zambique

Mr Soames, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, will visit Mozambique next week. He will use the occasion to pay the positive role he played in Rhodesian settlement.

The Rhodesian settlement, the announced that martial law had been imposed in Rhodesia. In London, the Government announced that it would immediately help reconstruction work.

census questions

Questions on ethnic origins will be in the 1981 census form. Mr Jenkins, Secretary of State for Wales, said the poor response to the 1971 census had shown the need for a better census.

On April 5, will, however, ask a respondent's address a year and country of birth. The census will be held on November 1, 1981.



Art auction: The paintings from the collection of Mr Henry Ford are to be sold by Christie's in New York on May 13 (Geraldine Norman writes). All 10 are masterpieces of the Impressionist and Post-Impressionist periods. No small group of comparable importance has been offered since Sotheby's Goldschmidt sale in 1953. A total value of £3.2m has been suggested for the Ford collection but this seems very conservative. Three of the paintings are on view at the Royal Academy Post-Impressionist exhibition in London.

Trotskyist group 'damaging Labour'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Infiltration of the Labour Party by members of the Trotskyist Militant Tendency was doing great damage to the Labour Party, Lord Underhill, the former national agent of the party, said yesterday.

Earlier he released his reports on left-wing "enemies" which the party national executive had refused to publish.

The documents show that the Trotskyists, having their own national organization, branches and printing press, are contravening the party constitution, Lord Underhill said.

He was not in favour of most expulsions or a nationwide witchhunt.

The NEC should more actively put forward the principles of democratic socialism to counter the Trotskyists' arguments, he said.

Mr James Callaghan, the party leader, gave the impression at the January meeting of the NEC that he believes the Tendency's publications are tedious and not likely to win support. But Lord Underhill thinks that all parties and unions should be alerted to what he sees as a dangerous faction.

Mr Ron Hayward, general secretary of the party, said last night that Lord Underhill's report vindicated the NEC's decision against publication. It disclosed little which had not been considered fully and reported on the party conference in 1977.

He had invited all fringe groups, including the Militant Tendency, to provide information on their activities.

All groups within the Labour movement had an obligation to provide detailed information and to abide by the party's rules and constitution.

Nicholas Timmins writes: The report was attacked as "absolute rubbish" by Mr Edward Grant, political editor of the Militant newspaper.

"Militant is not an organization, it is not a party, it is a party. We are a tendency, the same way as the Tribune Group, and Militant conducts its activities in the same way as other tendencies in the party," he said.

The idea that the Militant Tendency parachuted in to take over constituency parties was "all nonsense" and "childish."

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Schmidt plea to East

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, appealed to Herr Honecker, the East German communist leader, to meet him urgently for talks on renewing the drive for détente, endangered since the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.

Détente, he told the Bundestag, was important for divided Germany. Page 6

Soldier dies on peak

The death of a Special Air Service Regiment soldier during a training exercise on Brecon Beacons, the third in those mountains within a year, prompted an MP to say he would ask the Ministry of Defence for an explanation.

Gandhi report curb

The Indian Government has stopped all further distribution and sale of the report by the Shah Commission into the 20 months Mrs Gandhi ruled under emergency regulations between 1975 and 1977.

Jobs hope for Wales

Prospects for 18,350 new jobs in Wales have been identified by the Government, Sir Keith Joseph has told Welsh trade union leaders.



These include two works by Van Gogh: "Le Jardin du Poète, Arles" (right), painted in 1888 for the rooms that Gauguin was to occupy, and "Le Jardin Public", again painted at Arles. From the same period there is a Brittany seascape by Gauguin, "La Plage au Pouldu", also on show at Burlington House. There is a Cézanne "Paysan en Blouse Bleue" of 1887 (left); the sitter is placed in front of Cézanne's earliest known painting, a six-panel screen.

Union leaders to put latest peace initiative to British Steel today

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Steel union leaders will invite the British Steel Corporation to increase its "final" offer today or join the union in setting up an independent committee of inquiry into the industry's pay dispute.

This form of arbitration is regarded by the union as the most appropriate way of resolving the national strike now well into its twelfth week.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the dominant Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, last night went to Westminster for talks designed to prepare the political ground for the union's latest peace initiative.

It will be put to the BSC management in talks this afternoon by the 10 members of the Iron and Steel Co-ordinating Committee as a more promising route to a settlement of the strike than the corporation's threat to hold a ballot on its 14.4 per cent pay and productivity package.

In fact, union leaders are now less anxious about the prospect of another management-organized ballot of the men.

They argue in private that the balance of shop-floor opinion is swinging their way as workers realize that BSC's proposals mean substantial job losses in the steel works that remain open after BSC's massive pruning exercise.

But preparations are still going ahead for full-page advertisements in local newspapers that circulate in the steel-making towns, calling on trade unionists "to beware" any secret ballot mounted by the corporation.

The idea of a committee of inquiry has been in the minds of some BSC leaders for some time, and an exercise of this sort could be set up quickly if British Steel endorses the proposal. As the corporation has said it does not intend to improve its offer, this seems to be the most likely way out of the impasse.

If the proposal is taken up, a three-man committee, headed by a jointly agreed chairman and assisted by nominees from each side, would be asked to study the document already negotiated on job flexibility, demarcation and local productivity bargaining. They would then make recommendations to the parties that would be morally binding.

In the latest edition of Steelworkers' Banner, the ISTC strike newspaper, the union claims that in South Wales, bonus payments could only be achieved through substantial reductions in jobs. In Scotland, the bonus payment would require a 3 per cent job loss and in Southport job losses would have to come before bonuses were paid. "Every steel worker would be required to become a bounty hunter," it says.

The paper also discloses that the International Metalworkers' Federation has given the steel unions in Britain more than £60,000 to distribute to striking steel workers.

The money comes from trade unions in Germany, Japan, Sweden and the Geneva-based IMF itself.

Scholey denial, page 2

Sea silences original pirate radio station

By Craig Seton
Radio Caroline, the original pirate ship, sank off the Essex coast yesterday, silenced by the heavy seas that were the only serious threat to its existence since it was outlawed by the British and Dutch governments in the late 1960s.

The station, on the MV Mi Amigo, an aging Dutch coaster, was overwhelmed by waves 13 miles off the coast in the early morning shortly after a lifeboat had rescued its crew of four, including two British disc jockeys.

The Mi Amigo had been in difficulty all night after breaking away from her mooring near Southend in a gale and drifting into a sandbank.

The four were taken by lifeboat to Sheerness where, after being treated to tea and warmth at the police station they were released. They were told, however, that they would be reported to the Director of Public Prosecutions under the Marine Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967, the legislation originally intended to silence Caroline and other private stations.

None of the crew was injured. They were named as Nigel Latch, of Bournemouth, Timothy Lewis of Soham, Suffolk, Nigel Tibbles of Rayleigh, Essex and Tom Lathover from Amsterdam.

Mr Tibbles said after the rescue that those on board had worked the pumps until coastguards insisted they left the ship. After they left a big wave lifted the ship and she sank to the bottom quickly in 25ft of water.

Mr Charles Bowry, coxswain of the lifeboat, said: "The operation to get the crew off took 12 hours. It was the hairiest rescue I have ever done."

Caroline's owners and backers in Spain and Holland indicated yesterday that broadcasts would be resumed as soon as possible, probably in a new vessel, to serve its estimated 500,000 listeners in Britain and on the Continent.

Caroline's contribution to modern pop culture is well established. The station began broadcasting in 1964, and for many years, stationed off the British coast, attracted an audience of millions listening to a 24-hour output of pop music.

The station's popularity aroused the BBC to establish Radio One, its own pop music station, to cater for the new, young audience. With other legally-established commercial pop stations, it gradually and substantially eroded Radio Caroline's audience.

Mice eat way through towns of Australia

From Douglas Alton
Melbourne, March 20

Mice are plaguing towns on the west coast of South Australia. People have been catching up to 100 a night in their homes.

The rodents eat their way through rubber bandings on doors to get into the houses, in which they devour everything edible, and some things considered inedible, too, such as plastic. Gardens have been stripped and the bark eaten off fruit trees.

Farmers may have to abandon sowing grain this year because of the plague, which has lasted three months now and is the worst to hit the area.

The area affected stretches from Ceduna, on the far west coast, to a district about 60 miles east of Ceduna, then south to Sireesky Bay.

Other towns affected include Pervang, Thevenard and Munipia. Almost nothing, including the sea, seems to stop the mice.

A family living on a yacht 200 yards offshore in Denial Bay, near Ceduna, have seen mice swimming around the boat. The animals have stayed afloat for up to 30 minutes, trying to get on board.

The plague has been compounded by the appearance of rats. Ceduna residents who say they have not seen a rat in 20 years now report a blind numbers in the past two weeks.

Dead mice litter 100 miles of Princes Highway, Australia's most important motorway. Schools in Ceduna and Streaky Bay have been fumigated, but this keeps the mice away for only two weeks. At Ceduna children have come out of class to find their lunches eaten.

A fruit fly inspector said that the mice would eat almost anything. "Three keeps the mice away from a house for a bit now because there is nothing left for them to eat."

The mice have even tried to eat steel wool used to block their entry to houses. They have also eaten pussy used to block holes. Near Ceduna, a family camping awake to find the floor and part of the sides of their tent eaten away.

Grain stores on farms are also a target. Grease used to block drainage holes in the base of silos has been eaten.

Shire councils, in the far west have been unable to combat the plague even at their rubbish dumps, where they have put poison. Mice unable to find moisture have turned to digging into septic tanks and have invaded drinking water tanks on farms and in towns. People with mouse-poisoned tanks have had to drain them. They are empty now, waiting for rain.

The local people believe that torrential rain might drown some of the mice, or that a cold spell could wipe them out. It has also been suggested that if the mice start to starve they would eat one another. But so far, they survive in ever-growing hordes.

The Times

The price of The Times is to be 30p. With effect from next Monday, March 24, it is the first increase since May, 1977. In that period, to January, 1980, retail prices have risen by 35 per cent.

Continued on page 6, col 5

One-day Tube strike in 'attacks' protest

By Donald Macintyre
The London Underground will be halted tomorrow work by a 24-hour official strike called by the biggest rail union in protest at violent attacks on staff.

The executive of the National Union of Railwaymen yesterday instructed its 15,000 London Transport members to stop work from the end of services next Friday night until the end of Monday Saturday services.

The step is the most far-reaching yet taken by the unions in protest at a series of violent incidents on the Underground which culminated last Friday night in a fracas at Neasden station involving gangs of youths during which two of London Transport's staff were injured.

The executive also gave official backing to those staff who have voted not to serve the eight stations between West Hampstead and Queensbury on the Jubilee Line or Preston Road on the Metropolitan Line tonight after 10 p.m.

Disruption on the Jubilee Line will be intensified by the unofficial decision of 40 drivers of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen from the Baker Street depot not to operate services on the north western section of the line after 10 p.m. tonight, tomorrow night and on succeeding Fridays and Saturdays.

Mr Sidney Weiden, general secretary of the NUR, emphasized that the Neasden incident had not of itself prompted the action. Last year there had been 291 assaults on LT staff.

London Transport said last night that a one-day strike would not help to solve the problem. It had to continue to press successive Home Secretaries for stiffer penalties against hooligans. "In particular we have suggested that an attack on a uniformed member of staff should be treated as seriously as an attack on a police officer."

President Tito

Ljubljana, March 20.—Doctors today reported another small success in their battle to keep President Tito alive. They said abdominal bleeding had been almost completely stopped.

M Sartre ill

Paris, March 20.—Jean-Paul Sartre, the French writer and philosopher, who is 74, was admitted to the intensive care ward of the Broca hospital in Paris today, suffering from fluid in the lungs.

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HOME NEWS

Sir Keith tells unions of 18,350 possible new jobs in Wales

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Prospects for more than 18,000 new jobs in Wales have been identified by the Government, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, told Welsh trade unionists yesterday.

There are also indications that the Government is considering putting more money into regions which will be affected by steel closures.

The hint of further government help to ease social problems arising from British Steel's plan to end 11,300 jobs at Llanwern and Port Talbot and a run-down in the coal industry was contained in a letter by Sir Keith to Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC.

Replying to points made by Welsh trade unionists at a meeting last month, Sir Keith said that 18,350 new jobs have been identified in Wales on a county by county basis. He also disclosed that the Government is reviewing the assisted area gradings for those areas which will be affected by the steel plant closures.

"I hope that as soon as possible after final decisions have been reached by the BSC, following the necessary consultations with the union, I shall be able to make an announcement on the result of this review," he says.

He notes that additional aid of £48m has been allocated for remedial measures in the South Wales region. In north Wales, where the Shotton steelworks is to close, a further £15m is being provided and

the areas have been upgraded to special development status. Plans are proceeding, he says, for the acquisition and development of industrial sites. An initial wave of advance factory construction is being made by the Welsh Development Agency and the Cymru Development Corporation. Sir Keith holds out hopes of securing further EEC assistance in the light of plans to provide further benefits to encourage steelworkers to retire early.

Sir Keith, in his letter, underlining the strong support the Government is giving to the corporation's retrenchment plan and says that its target production of 15 million tonnes of steel with three million tonnes in reserve is much in line with departmental forecasts.

"It would be no service to the long-term interest of Wales nor to the many thousands dependent on BSC for their livelihood if the Government were to ignore the economic realities facing the corporation," he says.

Referring to the effect of steel closures on the coal industry, Sir Keith states that he considers that the implications for the South Wales coalfield will not be as drastic as union leaders have maintained.

Unions, he says, will be able to make representations about possible closures through established procedures for reviewing the future of collieries. The Government, he says, will lose no opportunity of exploring Community means of providing United Kingdom coking coal with a more stable competitive position.

No 'intolerable' gap if 'sus' law goes

By Stewart Tindler

Home Office administrators admitted to MPs yesterday that abolition of the "sus" law would not create an intolerable gap in the law. The Home Office will consider changes once the views of a report by the Law Commission and the committee on which the MPs were sitting are made known.

Five members of the Home Office were giving evidence to the subcommittee on race relations and immigration, part of the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs. The subcommittee is hearing evidence on the "sus" law, which is derived from the nineteenth-century Vagrancy Act. The law makes it an offence to be a suspected person.

The civil servants were criticised yesterday for being slow to recognize the difficulties surrounding the law and the wording of their written evidence, which one MP said was a tacit acceptance of the police view.

The Home Office's written evidence said facts about the involvement of ethnic communities with the law were not conclusive. It would be wrong to change the "sus" law in isolation.

Mr A. Brennan, deputy secretary of the Criminal Department at the Home Office, told the committee that the law on attempted offences (or specific offences such as tampering with a car) would go some way to fill gaps should the "sus" law be abolished.

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Pay demand by steel executives denied

By Our Industrial Editor

The British Steel Corporation yesterday denied a report in the Daily Mirror that board members were demanding large pay increases and said that the main points made in the article were "completely without foundation".

Suggestions that executives were seeking rises of £250 a week were described by Mr Robert Scholey, the corporation's chief executive, as "absolutely untrue". Remuneration levels of board members was a

matter for the Government, he said, and no demands had been made.

Levels of pay of directors in the public sector, corporations, and the judiciary and the Armed Services, are the subject of regular surveys by the Review Body on Top Salaries.

Chairmen and other board members in nationalized industries are due to receive the third instalment of increases approved by the Labour government in 1978 on April 1 and

'It must be like springtime in Siberia' RAC says, as snow and ice block roads in the North

Third SAS death on mountain prompts inquiry by MP

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

A Conservative MP said yesterday that he would ask the Ministry of Defence to explain why three soldiers, members of the Special Air Service Regiment, had died within a year during training exercises on the Brecon Beacons, in Wales.

The body of Trooper Lawrence John Connor, aged 26, was discovered yesterday by an army helicopter less than two miles from the point where he had started out on a night navigational exercise.

It is believed that Trooper Connor, married with no children and from the London area, died within a short time of setting out on a 10-kilometre march in very bad weather, with temperatures well below freezing. The Ministry of Defence, who would not reveal his address, confirmed last night

that Trooper Connor was attached to the 21st Special Air Service Regiment of the Territorial Army.

Mr Thomas Hooson, MP for Brecon and Radnor, said last night: "I have to be very concerned over this series of deaths. Training for the SAS is necessarily rigorous, and that has to be understood. Nevertheless, it does seem that there are people pushing themselves beyond reasonable limits. I shall be asking the ministry to explain these circumstances."

An army spokesman said: "Such exercises are a necessary part of training. We can not just train soldiers on a Bank Holiday afternoon when there are no clouds in the sky. You have to train in all weather conditions."

Trooper Connor, who was carrying a survival kit and rations, had apparently made no effort to shield himself

from the storm blowing down from the 2900-foot peak.

Almost two years ago Major Michael Kealy, of the SAS, died during a 37-mile march across the same mountain range and in similar weather. He set out without foul weather equipment and had seemed determined to complete the course ahead of runners who were being considered for the service. He had been awarded the DSO for bravery in the Oman in 1972.

Last August Corporal Robert Knott collapsed and died during an SAS selection march on the Brecon Beacons, where the recruits had to struggle through a 50 mph gale.

During the march, Corporal Knott, Mr Trevor Evans, the South Powys Coroner, ordered senior army officers to report to him on what plans they had to prevent the deaths of soldiers in training.

At the inquest an SAS major identified only by number said:

"We are satisfied there is a need for exercises like this. Soldiers have to work in dangerous conditions on their own, not just against the weather but against the Queen's enemies and in the long term a selection procedure like this saves lives."

Cold spell goes on: Strong northerly winds and snow kept Britain shivering yesterday (the Press Association reports). The North was worst affected, with several roads blocked by snow and ice, but the bitter winds also brought snow flurries as far south as Sezenoaks, in Kent.

The port of Dover was battered by storm force 10 gales, which delayed shipping.

Several main roads in Cumbria and South Yorkshire were blocked and in West Yorkshire 50-60 mph speed restrictions

were imposed on the M62 because of icy conditions.

In the Pennines roads blocked by snow included the A57 Snake Pass, the A624 Gossop to Chapel-en-le-Frith and A628 Parnith to Alston. The AA warned drivers of high-sided vehicles to take great care because of strong crosswinds on motorways.

The RAC said: "With spring flowers being crushed in inches of snow and ice, spring lambs being frozen by icy blasts and roads being turned into ice-rinks overnight, it must be a bit like springtime in Siberia."

The London Weather Centre said: "The weather is being determined by very cold northerly winds which have drawn in air from northern Europe. Over the next few days the weather will stay very cold, with temperatures picking up a little in the South and staying mainly dry."

Top Tories gather to reassure the faithful

From Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter
Bournemouth

The Prime Minister and eight ministers are to descend on the Tory seaside stronghold of Bournemouth today and tomorrow to reassure the faithful in the county.

Motions tabled at the two-day meeting of the Conservative Central Council, a gathering of agents, constituency party chairmen and other activists, claim that there is impotence in the ranks with certain aspects of government policy.

Failure to oil the party machine at this level could in the long run turn a minister into a Charlie Chaplin, caught in the cogs of disillusion. For that reason ministers know that they have a hard message to get across to the party professionals.

Communication is one of the complaints. A motion to be put to the party point to the apparent lack of communication and understanding between the party and the electorate.

Proposed by the Yeovil Conservative Association, it asks the Government to make a more effective use of every means at its disposal to explain, simply, its principles and policy and the reasons for them, to bring a greater awareness of many of the problems the country is facing.

The debate is to be answered by Mr Angus Meade, who said that the Government was making a further study.

Payment of the third and final instalment will increase the salary of British Steel's chairman from £44,000 to £48,000 and the chief executive's from £33,000 to £37,000. Other board members' salaries will also rise.

Mr Scholey said that the article appeared not to be concerned with the strike over pay by corporation workers and was "most unhelpful".



Mr Richard Butler: "Increases were disappointing."

Subsidy for lamb to rise by 11pc

By Our Agriculture
Correspondent

Government subsidies which protect farmers against low prices for lamb are to be increased by 11 per cent at the end of the month. The subsidies lie at the heart of the dispute about British sales of lamb in France.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in a parliamentary written reply yesterday that the Government had decided to continue the sheep subsidy scheme because the EEC had failed to include sheep in the common agricultural policy.

Guarantee payments on lamb will rise by 15p a kilogram to £1.55, and on wool by 3p to £1.11. Mr Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales, said that the increases were "extremely disappointing".

"I do not believe that the Government has met its obligations to the sheep industry," he said. "The industry would really have been in a bad mess if we had not had the guarantee scheme in the past year."

The system of subsidising sheep farmers by topping up market prices to a guaranteed level with government funds is one of the last relics of the deficiency payments scheme which operated in Britain before entry to the EEC.

The scheme has been retained for sheep because EEC ministers have been unable after years of wrangling to adopt a common organization for the market in the meat of sheep and goats which would protect farmers throughout the Community.

France uses the British system of subsidy payments to justify its barriers against imports of British lamb. It says that the subsidies give protection to British farmers which is not available elsewhere.

Mr Butler said yesterday that leaders of the NFU faced mounting pressure from some county branches for renunciation against French barriers against lamb imports. He said after a meeting of the council of the union in London: "We have had a number of resolutions demanding that we press for action against French imports such as apples, cheese and eggs."

Five years ago NFU members picketed harbours in an effort to stop the import of cattle from the Irish Republic. Mr Butler said that the union would not hesitate to seek direct government aid to match that given to farmers in other EEC countries.

University chief who 'prostituted reputation' fined in heating case

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

Dr Edward Trevor Stringer, aged 51, who has been suspended for a year from his post as scientific director of meteorology and climatology at Birmingham University, was told by Judge Potter in Birmingham Crown Court yesterday: "You have utterly prostituted your reputation as a man of science in this case."

Dr Stringer, of Wheatmoor Rise, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, was found guilty on eight charges of supplying or offering to supply goods to which a false trade description was applied.

He was found not guilty on four similar charges and one of making a false statement that he was allowed to use the name of the university in promotional material. All the charges were brought under the Trade Descriptions Act.

Dr Stringer, who was said to be now financially crippled, was fined a total of £200 on two specimen charges and given a conditional discharge for two years on the others.

The case, which West Midlands County Council said was the first of its kind in Britain, concerned solar heating equipment.

Dr Stringer and John Arthur Pepper, a Yorkshire businessman, made claims in their advertising which they could not substantiate, it was alleged. High pressure advertising from the company headquarters of Sunwarm Solar Systems Ltd, of

Wetherby, West Yorkshire, covered the whole country.

It used the academic status of Dr Stringer, and people were persuaded to pay hundreds of pounds for installations which were claimed would save money on water heating. Tests on the equipment showed it was incapable of meeting the claims.

A Birmingham University Official said last night that the result of the trial would probably be reported to the university council next Wednesday.

The council suspended Dr Stringer and it was a matter for them what other action, if any, was taken. The council had the power of dismissal.

At the start of the case Judge Potter issued a bench warrant for the arrest of Mr Pepper, who was said to be working in Nigeria.

Mr Raymond Sears, QC, for the defence of Dr Stringer, said the verdicts might well cause difficulties for his academic future. His whole life was in collapse.

Judge Potter said to Dr Stringer: "I recognise fully your academic past and your good service to a fine university. You saw fit to ally yourself with a collection of business people for cashing in on a very simple device which was not even an invention and was neither original nor particularly clever."

Other people brought in extremely sharp and shady business methods. You were too naïve to see that what you brought to the enterprise was

your prestige as a man of science."

The judge added that Dr Stringer had "resorted to charlatanism and eventually downright dishonesty. You have ruined yourself by your folly."

He imposed the conditional discharge "lest you be tempted to go on to other stupid business ventures within two years". He made no order on costs and added: "Your defence was rubbish and anyone else who tries to do the same as you will be in the same boat."

Mr Peter Lorimer, the former Leeds United and Scotland footballer, became a director of the company at the same time as Dr Stringer early in 1976. He told the court: "I think I was there purely to use my name for advertising and I took it that Dr Stringer was there as the man who knew the technical side of the system."

Mr Lorimer said he took no part in running the business. He had lost £10,000, having signed certain guarantees for meetings and quickly cancelled by workers in the building. He said the flow of money was difficult to trace.

Later Mrs Joan Seccombe, chairman of the West Midlands trading standards committee, said that 15 sunscreens had been issued against another company involving cases in Manchester, Sussex and Bedfordshire. Another company was also under investigation.

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Big increase in whooping cough cases

By Our Health Services
Correspondent

Whooping cough and food poisoning both reached higher levels in 1978 than at any time since the late 1950s, according to a report on infectious diseases published yesterday.

The annual total of 65,957 notifications of whooping cough was the highest since 1957 and reflected the decline in the uptake of whooping cough vaccine since 1974. There were twelve deaths in 1978, compared with seven in 1977 and three in 1976.

Notifications of food poisoning in 1978 reached 3,741, the highest total since 1953. The figures show an increase in frequency of one particular type was that for salmonella typhimurium, which is closely associated with turkeys.

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Blaze damages sports centre

A sports and swimming pool complex at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, was severely damaged by fire yesterday in spite of the efforts of more than 70 firemen and 13 appliances from six brigades.

The centre, which opened five years ago, included two swimming pools, three squash courts, badminton and basketball courts and a restaurant. Two firemen were taken to hospital.

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Prince's green beret

Prince Andrew has successfully completed his training with Royal Marine Young Officers, which includes commando course tests. He is to receive his green beret at a passing-out parade at Lympstone today.

Post pay deal may depend on productivity

By Our Labour Staff

Pay negotiations on a 20 per cent claim by 140,000 postal workers will be resumed during the next few days. Yesterday the Post Office refused to make an offer.

It told union negotiators that because a conference this week of the Union of Post Office Workers rejected virtually all aspects of a proposed productivity plan, it wanted more time to consider the implications on the annual pay deal, which is due to be settled by next month.

Union officials left yesterday's talks with the impression that the corporation might want to make part of the pay offer conditional on acceptance of some of the productivity proposals.

Mr Tom Jackson, general secretary of the union, has said that the corporation had budgeted for an increase in wage costs next year of only 11 per cent. He told the conference in Bournemouth that the decisions it took were likely to have great bearing on the pay negotiations.

France uses the British system of subsidy payments to justify its barriers against imports of British lamb. It says that the subsidies give protection to British farmers which is not available elsewhere.

Mr Butler said yesterday that leaders of the NFU faced mounting pressure from some county branches for renunciation against French barriers against lamb imports. He said after a meeting of the council of the union in London: "We have had a number of resolutions demanding that we press for action against French imports such as apples, cheese and eggs."

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Wife aged 82 faces jail over man's cash

Mrs Ada Carter, aged 82, who is housebound, faces the threat of jail in a week's time if she does not hand over to her husband £230 he has saved to help to pay for his funeral.

Sir John Arnold, President of the Family Division of the High Court, was told yesterday that when Henry Carter, aged 83, parted from his wife she kept the cash and other belongings.

Mr Carter, of Lympstone Avenue, Wood Green, London, obtained a court order last year directing his wife, who lives at Victoria Road, Wood Green, to hand over the property.

The order applies to a tea set, dinner service, bedroom suite and tools belonging to Mr Carter, as well as the money. The judge was told that Mrs

Carter had not complied with the order. Her husband sought to have her committed to prison. The judge added: "I have never committed a lady of 82. It is to be avoided if possible."

He made an order committing Mrs Carter to prison but suspended it for seven days to give her a chance to hand over her husband's belongings.

More Hell's angels found guilty

Four more Hell's Angels were found guilty by a jury at Winchester Crown Court yesterday of riotous assembly and assault.

The jury went off to spend its fourth night in special accommodation.

It retired on Monday after a nine-week trial and has so far reached verdicts on 19 of 22

defendants, who deny riotously assembling together and assaulting members of the Windsor chapter of the Hell's Angels in the New Forest last Easter.

The jury found guilty three of the defendants: John Howard, aged 25, of Ringwood; Robert Ash, aged 21, of Ringwood; and Stephen Waterman, aged 22, of Park Road, Southampton. Twelve others have already been found guilty and three others not guilty.

A charge of attempted murder against Kenneth Littlefield, aged 25, of Wimbledon Close, Camberley, and Royston Tompkins of Cadman Close, Aldershot, has still to be decided by the jury. The trial continues today.

Strik hold supp meat

By David F
Labour Re
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The vote of the House of Commons yesterday was 162 to 101 against the Government's proposal to allow the meat inspectors to strike.

At the time of the vote, the meat inspectors' union, the National Union of Meatworkers, was on strike.

The Government's proposal was to allow the meat inspectors to strike, but only if they were not on strike for more than 14 days.

Nalga said had follow signed deal their comp econ and in the Mi leads the increase in the per cent employers cent nation

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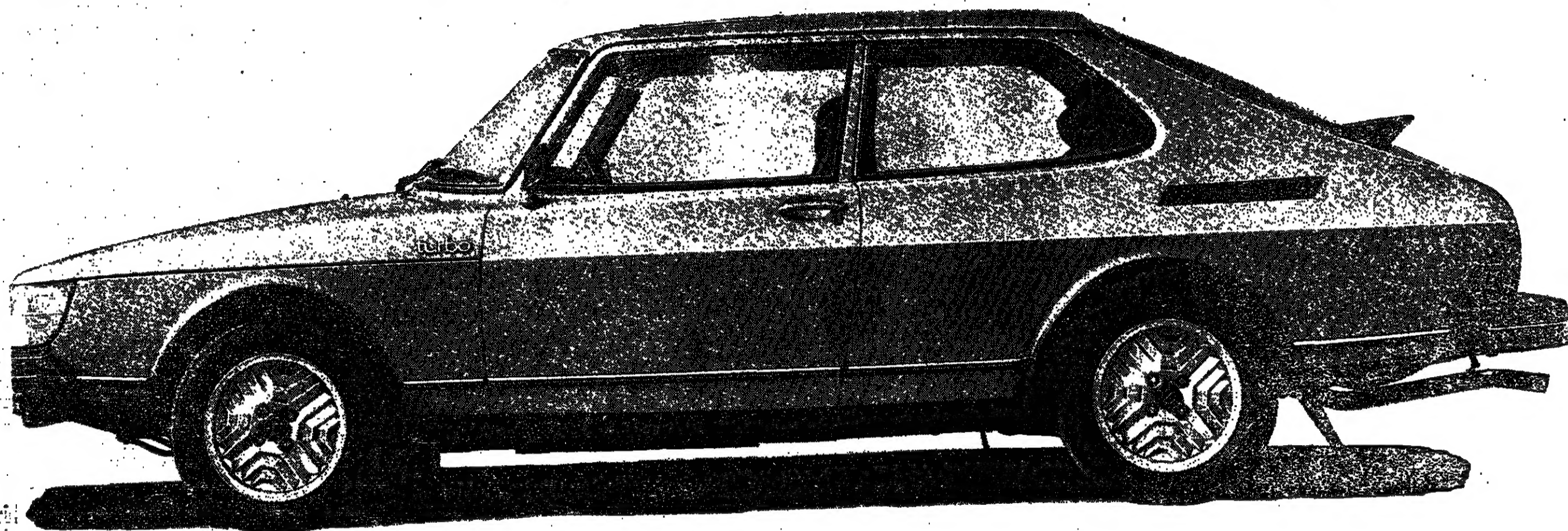
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What Car? - 1980

"Best Directors Car"



"The advent of the Turbo and the 900 series have transformed Saab and put them right at the forefront of the prestige car market.

Longer and more sophisticated than its predecessor, the 900 is very much in the "Directors" class. Performance is, of course, superb; the boosted engine doesn't have the standing start snap of larger capacity rivals but it can't be beaten for mid-range punch. For a big, front-drive car it can also be hustled through corners very smartly, thanks in great part to the excellent power steering and the grip of the low profile Pirelli P6 tyres. But it is practical virtues that complete the Saab so well: the comfortable seats, the smart new fascia and, of course, the massive carrying capacity of its hatchback design. What is more, the Turbo combines speed, quality, practicality and comfort with a degree of economy and realism never before found."

What Car? - APRIL '80

SAAB turbo Born to Lead

Saab (Gt Britain) Limited,
Saab House, Marlow Bucks. SL7 1LY. Tel: Marlow (06284) 6977. Export Enquiries - Tel: 01-491 2905.
SAAB Fleet Enquiries - Tel: Chesterfield (0246) 450244.

SAAB 900 Turbo, 3 and 5-door hatchback; simulated urban driving - 20.3 mpg; (13.9 litres per 100 km); constant speed driving 90 kph (56 mph) - 41.2 mpg (6.9 litres per 100 km); constant speed driving 120 kph (75 mph) - 32.5 mpg (8.7 litres per 100 km).

HOME NEWS

Mock war will involve drafting: 30,000 troops to Germany and a nuclear 'threat' to Britain

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

An 88.5m military exercise, the biggest of its kind since the Second World War, will be held in Britain and West Germany in September. About 30,000 troops, including nearly 20,000 from the Territorial Army, will be drafted across the Channel to reinforce the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR).

Then BAOR will fight a mock battle after an "enemy offensive" launched against the West at less than 48 hours' notice.

The Ministry of Defence has been planning the exercise, called Crusader-80, for more than a year. Details have not been previously announced because the Army has been waiting for final approval before going ahead with it.

Whitehall sources described it last night as the most comprehensive test for many years of Britain's contingency plans for mobilization, reinforcement of BAOR, and defence of the United Kingdom.

The exercise will consist of three separate parts, code-named by the sports terms of Square Leg, Top Trot and Spearpoint. The battle phase, Spearpoint, will involve three

British armoured divisions, one American division and a West German armoured brigade, in addition to other troops from Belgium and Holland.

It is the mobilization and reinforcement phases of the operation that are likely to attract most interest, however, because of the numbers involved.

An appeal to employers to release members of the Territorial Army to take part in Crusader has received a helpful response and was reinforced yesterday by a plea from the Prime Minister. The co-operation of employers was essential, Mrs Thatcher said, in allowing men and women to carry out their training commitments with the volunteer reserve forces of all the Services.

Regular reinforcements from the Army's 6th Field Force in Britain will be moved to West Germany between September 1 and 11, to be followed by the TA volunteers, who will travel during the weekend of September 13-15.

Some of the troops will travel on scheduled Sealink Channel ferries, but only in small numbers, so there is no danger of causing inconvenience to civilian passengers.

Others will go by service ships and aircraft or by specially chartered transport, including two passenger vessels and two freighters which have been hired from a Danish company. Ministry sources said that every effort had been made to find a British company, but without success.

There will be more than 40 sailings from Immingham, Felixstowe, Harwich, Dover and Southampton, and aircraft will fly from Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Teesside, Manchester, Luton, Heathrow, Gatwick, RAF Brize Norton and RAF Lyneham.

Crusader will require troops to prepare for a nuclear bombing of Britain, a limited use of chemical warfare by the "enemy" in Germany, and the threat to Britain from subversive and sabotage.

The Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, which have separate exercises at the same time, will play only a limited role in Crusader.

Architects fear new rules 'havoc'

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government's proposed new building control regulations would increase costs and delays, and could cause havoc, the Royal Institute of British Architects claimed yesterday.

The Building (Prescribed Fees) Regulations, 1980, which were laid before Parliament earlier this month, have already been criticized by leaders of the construction industry as invidious.

Announcing a "vigorous campaign" to oppose the regulations, the institute pointed out that it had not objected to the introduction of charges for building control, provided it could be shown that they were reasonable and that their introduction would save money and at the same time reduce bureaucratic delays and inconsistencies.

However, the Government's proposals were little more than an expedient measure to cut public expenditure, which increased both the true cost and the inconvenience to the industry and the public.

Under the regulations, payments for the processing of plans and the inspection of work on site would be made to the local authority.

But in failing to define which parts of the work would be covered by the regulations, the Government had created a situation in which both the applicant and the authority would have to waste their time and other people's money in arguing about what was or was not eligible.

The scope for delay, expense and eccentric interpretation would appear to be infinite, the institute said.

£38,000 art theft

Pinkney Hall, north Norfolk, the home of Mr Anthony Duckworth Chad, was broken into early yesterday. Paintings and silverware value at £38,000 were stolen.

BR sceptical over cut-price Channel tunnel plan

By Michael Bailly
Transport Correspondent

The proposal for a cut price Channel tunnel by a consortium including Costain, the building group, was received with scepticism yesterday. It said: "Costain let us have a copy of their proposal a fortnight ago. We are still studying it, but the steeper gradients would appear to cause operational problems."

The consortium proposes cutting the cost of the tunnel from about £500m to £400m by reducing its length from 50 to 36km. That would entail steeper gradients from the underwater level to the surface and additional locomotives that would accumulate power on the down grade and use it on extra haulage on the upgrade.

Columnist drops action

Mr Nigel Dempster, editor of the Daily Mail diary, yesterday abandoned a High Court action in which he was claiming £7,402 from the BBC.

Mr Dempster had claimed that he was tricked on television into repeating a libel against Lord Wigg, which had already cost him £5,000 in damages.

He also said that Mr Harry Weisbloom, a BBC producer, had promised to edit out anything libellous in the offending interview, which he gave for a

BMA team to survey doctors' difficulties

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

London's health care difficulties of crowded surgeries, ageing family doctors and a large influx of summer tourists are to be considered by a team set up by the British Medical Association.

The team will also consider the pressure on space in Harley Street, where lawyers and accountants are moving into premises formerly used by doctors.

Dr John Havard, secretary of the association, said yesterday that pressure of space was likely to grow because of the greater opportunities to do private work provided by the consultants' new contract.

"But we have noticed that lawyers and accountants are beginning to buy premises in the area. There have been cases where other professions have moved into premises that were used by doctors." The association wanted to keep Harley Street as a medical precinct because of its international reputation, Dr Havard said. "The centre will continue to be the long-standing difficulties of

inner London health care. One is the age of its general practitioners. Dr John Dawson, head of the team, said that 25 per cent of London's GPs were over 60, compared to 13 per cent nationally.

"Moreover, 8.5 per cent are over 70, compared with 2.6 per cent nationally. Only 10 per cent are under 35, while the proportion nationally is 18 per cent," he said.

Although the ratio of doctors to patients in London was better than elsewhere, with doctors' lists averaging 1,785, compared with 2,200 nationally, it was thought that patients visited their doctors more frequently because of the shorter waiting lists.

London also had to cope with a large influx of tourists every year. In the summer of 1978, 8,500,000 tourists stayed 63 million nights in London.

Law centres join protest against short tenancies

By Our Planning Reporter

The Law Centres Federation yesterday added its voice to those of the critics of the Government's proposal to introduce "shortlet" private tenancies under the Housing Bill, now before Parliament.

The federation said that protection given to tenants by the rent Acts would be undermined. People who signed shortlet agreements, many of whom would have no choice, would not be able to get their homes repaired, would be forced to pay high rents and would be regularly uprooted.

Lord Underhill attacks Labour's NEC for failing to act on 'entryism'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Lord Underhill, the former national agent of the Labour Party, yesterday issued his report and background documents on the infiltration of Trotskyist, Militant Tendency.

Attacking Labour's national executive for taking no action against the "entryism", Lord Underhill, who served the Labour Party for 46 years, claimed that the party's constitution was being flooded and that great damage was being done to the party electorally by the presence of about 1,000 people who were committed to changing society by revolutionary methods.

The national executive had repeatedly refused to publish the documents. The NEC's February meeting decided that Lord Underhill should be asked to publish his report (including more recent information on the Militant Tendency), but at his own expense.

He said yesterday that he proposed to print the report and have it circulated to all constituency organisations and affiliated organisations, so that they could be alerted to the secret infiltration tactics of the Trotskyists.

Any fees that he received for television or radio interviews would be used to meet his costs. Since some members of the NEC have challenged the authenticity of the 400 pages of background material, Lord Underhill gave a detailed account of meetings he had held with three disaffected members of the Militant Tendency, who had confirmed its origin. He declined to name his sources.

While Lord Underhill rejected the idea of a witchhunt or mass expulsions, he thought a party upheaval would be damaging—he said the NEC was the guardian of the party constitution and that it should be able to remove a party organisation which had its own branches, regional conferences, a national "set up" and printing works, and whose leaders had said on television that they had about 60 full-time staff.

They comprised central office staff, regional organisers and a large number of paper sellers. "They claim all this themselves," Lord Underhill said. "How that can be allowed to exist within the democratic structure of the Labour Party I find very difficult to understand."

Replying to questions about the strength of the Militant Tendency, Lord Underhill said he doubted whether it had more than 2,000 members. He said the party was "contact members" the Militants were "working on."

He did not believe the Militants would take over the Labour Party, but they had an influence in about 60 constituency parties, and they had completely taken over the Labour Party Young Socialists. One disaffected member had reported attending an annual conference of the Tendency when 500 members and "contacts" were present.

Asked why he was worried about the impact of 2,000 people on a party with a total membership of 2.5 million, he replied: "First, there is a party constitution and it ought to be upheld by the national executive. It is not only the party's constitution, it is also the guardian of the constitution. That makes it clear that an organisation with its own branches and its own propa-

Labour urges West Europe dialogue Eurocommunism gets a cautious welcome

By Ian Bradley

A pamphlet published by the Labour Party yesterday gives a cautious welcome to the so-called Eurocommunism and calls for a dialogue between socialists and Communists in West Europe.

The discussion pamphlet, which does not represent official party policy, says that the crisis of capitalism is too big for any country in Europe to tackle alone.

It concludes: "Solutions need to be put forward at least on the scale of West Europe, and are likely to emerge only from a dialogue in which all the important socialist forces of West Europe take part. We can hardly deny a place among those forces to the Communist parties of Italy, France and Spain."

In his introduction, Mr Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool, Walton, and chairman of the party's national executive committee, which drew up the pamphlet, dates the origins of Eurocommunism to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

He writes: "A number of European Communist parties simply could not accept the Soviet leaders' arguments, and increasingly distanced themselves from Soviet policies. The process has been revised many of their theoretical concepts and fully accepted pluralism in politics, together with the democratic parliamentary path to socialism."

The pamphlet examines the phenomenon of Eurocommunism in France, Italy and Spain. In the two latter countries, at least, it finds the policies of the Communist parties to be more right-wing than those of the British Labour Party.

Reservations about the extent to which West European Communists cooperate and enter into coalitions with "bourgeois" parties.

There was an understandable slight sense of embarrassment about the pamphlet, which was held at the House of Commons to launch the pamphlet that it should have been published on the same day as the Underhill report on Trotskyist "entryism" into the Labour Party.

Mr Heffer said he referred disparagingly to the "Underhill report" went out of his way to reject the idea that the Labour Party should develop closer contacts with the British Communist Party or other far-left groups.

He emphasized that the European communist parties were mass parties commanding the support of a wide proportion of the electorate. "They can be feared or admired but they cannot be ignored," he said.



Mr Eric Heffer: "Crisis too big to tackle alone."

He was cautious about how far discussions with Eurocommunists should go and said that they should take place only with parties that were fully democratic and accepted the idea of a free press and free institutions.

We are not advocating formal discussions," he said, "but an extension of the informal contacts with European communists that already exist at party conferences and other occasions."

Mr Stuart Holland, Labour MP for Lambeth, Vauxhall, and one of the authors of the pamphlet, accepted that there were some difficulties in persuading the average British Labour voter that it was a good move to open a dialogue with Communists.

"But if, as a Labour movement, we are not in effective dialogue with the European left, but only with a fraction of it, we cannot hope to solve the great problems of multinational capitalism."

The pamphlet comes out clearly against Eastern European communism. "We should tell the Soviet, East German, Polish, Czech and other Communist Party leaders that as long as they refuse democracy, while we seek to live in peace with them, we cannot be expected to go beyond that," it says.

Mr Heffer says in his introduction: "Socialists must reject the bureaucratic societies of the Communist countries and, equally, the unbridled, competitive capitalist systems of West Europe."

The Dilemma of Eurocommunism (Labour Party, 144-152 Walworth Road, London, SE17 1JT; 80p).

£10 ticket covers 250 historic houses

By John Young
Planning Reporter

A £10 "season ticket" introduced yesterday will enable holders to visit more than 250 historic houses and gardens in England and Wales at no extra charge.

The scheme has been devised by the Historic Houses Association and most of the receipts will be used to further the association's work in advising owners on conservation, taxation and opening to the public.

Those paying the £10 annual subscription will be classed as Friends of the association and will receive a card giving them free admission at any time during normal opening hours to houses and gardens, but not necessarily to extraneous attractions such as game parks.

Among the houses included in the scheme are Badminton, Beaulieu, Blenheim, Broadlands, Castle Howard, Goodwood, Longleat, Luton Hoo, Montacute, Parkham, and Warwick Castle. Special tours will be arranged to houses not generally open to the public.

Details and application forms can be obtained from the Historic Houses Association, Membership Department, PO Box 53, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4UZ.

Decision on teachers pay claim postponed

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Teachers' leaders and employers' representatives yesterday agreed to postpone a decision on the teachers' claim for a salary increase from April 1 until after publication of the Clegg commission's report on their pay.

The teachers had presented a claim for an increase, based on the movement of the average earnings index over the previous 12 months. That was to be paid on top of any award arising from the commission's comparative study. The index stands at 19.9 per cent.

At a meeting yesterday of the Burnham Committee, the national negotiating body on teachers' pay, union leaders spoke of the strong feelings of discontent among their members because of the delay in the Clegg award. They urged employers to reach immediate agreement on the principles on which the April increase should be based.

The local authority representatives said they understood the discontent and recognized the patience the teachers had shown. However, they said they could not agree at that stage to a claim that could not be covered by the size of the Clegg award had to be known first.

It was agreed that the committee should meet again on April 17, 18, 23 and 25 in an

attempt to conclude the 1980 claim. That month, the teachers' salaries of 55 per cent.

They had hoped to submit it to the Minister by the month. Public opinion followed early next.

The employers' representatives will pay the teachers £44m a year. In support grant terms, the Government for only a 13 per cent living increase, or an average of 15-20 per cent.

Local authorities find the additional for any higher wage either by increasing pay or by cutting spending. Jobs will be at risk.

The National Association of Schoolmasters, Union Teachers, the second teachers' union, yesterday's Burnham award had to be known first for many years. It had been predictable for it said.

Exam for pupils of average ability is proposed

By Our Education Correspondent

A new "intermediate" examination, pitched about half way between O and A level, is proposed by the Schools Council in a report published today.

It would be designed primarily for pupils of average ability, who have obtained perhaps some higher grade GCE O level or CSE grade 1 results and who wish to pursue their studies for a further two years, but who do not intend to go on into higher education.

At present, pupils often combine the study of one or two A levels with repeat O level or CSE examinations, and possibly Alternative O level (AO) or the still experimental Certificate of Extended Education (CEE) courses, the report says, by a Schools Council working party.

Many pupils do not find their A level syllabuses rewarding or relevant to their needs, and they leave dispirited and disillusioned with little to show for two years' work. They need a more appropriate target for their post-16 studies. The proposed "intermediate" examination could fill that gap, the report suggests.

The proposed one-year CEE course should be introduced alongside the two-year "intermediate" course to provide primarily for pupils of slightly lower ability than those obtaining grades 2-4, who wish to improve their basic and general education and perhaps include some vocational options, it says.

The Schools Council believes that a general studies course should be compulsory for all sixth-form pupils. General studies can perform an important integrating and balancing role in post-16 education, it says.

The report also calls for improvement in the GCE A level, including a reduction in the number and variety of syllabuses.

Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has been considering the Schools Council's proposals since the report was submitted to him last December. It is up to him to decide whether any changes should be made in the public examinations system.

Secondary examinations post-16: a programme of improvement (Central Dispatch Section, Schools Council, 160 Great Portland Street, London, W1N 6LL, free).

Apology by minister over trans

By Our Political Correspondent

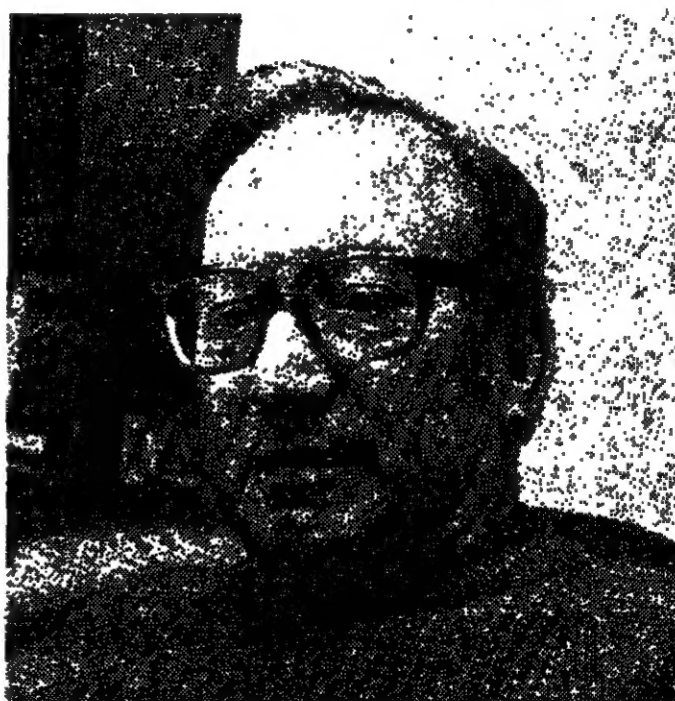
An apology for Commons that only a small number of Wales was proposed for transporting down, when the four, has been.

Mr Dafydd Iwan, Cymru, MP for Caerdydd, said that sources should be able to the Government of the "chaos" defeat in the House.

Mr Carlisle has announced that he will be in the House to "catch short" of a result of the tour.

Royal ballroom

The Queen's Sandringham will today for a public be used for the inauguration of the Sandringham of royal war-



Lord Underhill: "Trotskyists flout Labour constitution."

that might be carried on by any effective pressure group. Operating within the rules laid down by the different organisations, the Trotskyists simply sought to get their views adopted or their candidates approved for regional meetings or party or trade union conferences.

They had their troubles with the Trotskyist "Group" and the Independent Labour Publications group (formerly the Clause 4 Group). The Militant Tendency, which was in the contingencies of the Trotskyist group, shifted their allegiance to the ILP (that was in April, 1978).

Militant activists are constantly encouraged to join and racist movements with the aim of "winning black youth to Marxism". One bulletin says: "Both general work against racism and more especially our work through the lever of the black youth group needs to be stepped up. It is an open door that we are passing it."

"We must find a road to the black youth and the Asian youth, not only to increase the size of the group, but also to ensure that the undoubted repeated eruptions of racist poison will see our organization able to take the front rank in the fight against racism."

Instructions are given about countering attempts by the National Front to break up meetings. "A local broad anti-racist front organisation having had their meetings smashed up (with no changes in the structure of the group) is now 'running scared' of holding public meetings."

The first thing to realize, groups are told, is that the organizers of any meeting are legally responsible for the smooth running of the meeting.

"Therefore even if the police were impartial, the responsibility for stewarding any of our meetings is ours alone. As the police are not impartial, it is also important to ensure that their role is strictly outside the meeting."

The Times comes in for harsh criticism. In 1977 the Tendency attacked the Labour Government's policy of "saving" public expenditure by cutting social services, and gave a warning that a Tory government would adopt even more drastic cuts.

On this theme, the spokesman said: "The ravings of the former Labour Government, the voice of Toryism and of Nationalism, the Times, is an indication of the culture of the British capitalist class."

What The Times suggested that root-and-branch reform of the trade unions must come was, according to Mr Carlisle, a recipe for class conflict which dwarfs anything in British history. Gone is the boast about the British sense of compromise which was the theme of numerous of the media in the whole of the post-war period.

Any attempt to "confront the Tendency as a credible political force" would soon be abandoned because of the conflict it would provoke, and the impotence of parliamentary laws to make a decisive difference.

"What is written by workers' organization and mobilization cannot be changed by lawyers' ruling-class impotence. It is ending in effect physical confrontation with the workers ultimately. That is why supplies of CS gas,

Aim to penetrate every party

Lord Underhill's quotations from Militant Tendency's "entryism" demonstrates the intentions of the group. "When we gain a foothold in the Labour Party, we will be necessary to overthrow and transform the Labour Party, build support among workers."

"We must concentrate every effort on the Labour Party. In the country, we must have a presence in every party, every branch, every group, every union, every school, every club, every organization, every institution, every place where we can find a foothold."

"We must not be satisfied with a few seats on the Labour Party. We must have a presence in every party, every branch, every group, every union, every school, every club, every organization, every institution, every place where we can find a foothold."

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1 census mit nic origin stion

Pratt
The Correspondent
The census will not con-
sideration on ethnic ori-
near response to a
in Haringey, London,
the question was
with the census. Mr
Jenkin, Secretary of
Social Services, said
conference yesterday.
54 per cent of the
households in the main
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in that sort of test, it
possible to get in touch
per cent of households.
it refused to accept a
25 per cent accepted
but did not complete

Office of Population and Surveys says that
showed there was a
the inclusion of an
question could jeopard-
census as a whole.
81 census which will
on April 5, will not
lude the question on
countries of birth.
he 1974 census. But a
will be asked about
birth's address a year
nd country of birth.
it to Mr Jenkin that
said sample surveys
ugh idea of the facts,
a census could give
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the spending of thou-
sands of pounds of
tax money. He was
proposing to use
at methods to find out
on "from which the
sat had to evolve pol-
people who were
most concerned.
lied that the Govern-
ment accurate informa-
the subject, but the
as not the best way to
He listed other gov-
surveys from which
statistics from the reg-
of births and deaths,
itary general house-
survey, the international
survey and Depart-
ment figures on em-
ployment.

Mr Jenkin, who yesterday
in order in Parliament
the census, said in
to a parliamentary
that it would be the
simplest census for 50
years.
3 figures for individ-
uals should be avail-
able in 1982 and
tables would appear
or mid-1982. All the
ults should be avail-
able in 1984.
of the census, £45m
Britain at November,
as, represents a saving
of 15 and 16 per cent,
dropping questions
-origin, year of entry
United Kingdom and
y, the Government has
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from three others was
to justify their in-
clusion. They were on weekly
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The census asked in 1971
ertility and the number
which could disclose
a child was born out-
side, was not included.

ge criticizes police over charge

McNella, QC, at
a upon Tyne Crown
sterday criticized the
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putting in his pocket
man's pen he found
the street.
fly acquitting Philip
for the prosecution
to evidence the judge
him costs from central

ection may be spread by erinary surgeons

Medical Correspondent
dary surgeons: are
oday for the spread of
ion in cattle that may
ilk-borne disease in
man.
ian Williams, a consul-
tician in Haverford-
ites in the British Medi-
cal: that he has seen
as of skin infection in
ry surgeons due to sal-
dubium, a bacterium
s caused several out-
of blood poisoning in
ears.
human outbreaks
ave involved deaths of
in poor health have
uced to the drinking of

uina Syndrome' stars win top awards

Davalle
Fonda and Jack Lem-
te joint stars of *The*
China Syndrome, the American
out an accident at a
power plant, have won
best film actress and
actor awards of the
Academy of Film and
Arts.
e television best actor
e actress category, Sir
inness won the award
role as George Smiley
r, *Tinker, Soldier, Spy*,
ry-Campbell for *Testa*
Youth, in which she
vera Brittain.
awards were presented
cess, Anne, president of
leavy, at a ceremony at
leavy Conference Centre,
last night. Awarded
Best film: *Manhattan*,
Francis Ford Coppola
masc: *Rite*; screen-play
at: (Woody Allen and
Bricman) *Cinema*
The Deer Hunter (Wil-
d); art design: Allen
Sevigny); costume de-
signs (Shirley Russell); film
The Deer Hunter (Peter



The baby gorilla born at the Bristol zoo a fortnight ago playing yesterday with Mr Michael Colbourne, head keeper of the ape house. Neither mother nor baby is on show to visitors yet.

Trials begin on 'new' Interferon

By Our Science Editor

Thirty cancer patients are
taking part in the first large-
scale clinical trials of the bio-
chemical interferon, which has
been synthesized by genetic
engineering at the laboratories
at High Wycombe of G. D.
Searle, the international drug
company.

A team working with Dr
A. J. Hale has perfected a pro-
cess for producing 200 million
units every eight days, an
important development in tak-
ing the products of genetic
engineering to the market.

The new cancer therapy is
being carried out at the Univer-
sity of Texas Anderson Hospital
and Tumour Institute.

Interferon, which may help to
prevent influenza, hepatitis and
other viral infections, was
identified in 1956, but develop-
ment was hampered because
only tiny quantities could be
obtained from sources such as
white blood cells.

Other cells in the body,
fibroblasts, produce the same
chemical. In the technique per-
fected by G. D. Searle genetic
material that controls the
synthesis of interferon in fibro-
blasts is removed and trans-
ferred to bacteria, which pro-
duce the substance in large
quantities.

raw, unpasteurized milk in-
fected with the bacterium.
When a cow needs help dur-
ing calving, the internal man-
ipulations may be strenuous and
prolonged, Dr Williams says.
Veterinary surgeons often pre-
fer to operate with arms un-
covered, finding that gloves make
the procedures more difficult.
Afterwards surgeons often get
a rash on the forearms, which they
may attribute to irritation from
disinfectants.
In fact, Dr Williams says, the
cause in his patients was sal-
monella dubium, and while the
rash persisted the surgeon
could pass the infection to
other cattle.

Five years' jail for office block arsonist

David Donner, aged 28, who
was said to have started a blaze
in a crowded office block in
York, was sentenced at York
Crown Court yesterday to five
years' imprisonment.
Mr Donner, an unemployed
welder, had told arresting
officers: "I wanted to burn
the building down and see
people running about. I wanted
to see someone die."
He pleaded guilty to burglary
and arson with intent to en-
danger life, using lighter fuel
and paper to begin the fire.
Mr Geoffrey Maxson, for the
prosecution, said Mr Donner
tossed cans containing air
freshener into the flames so
that they would explode.

New cancer risks from rubber

By Nicholas Timmins

Workers in the rubber indus-
try may be running an increased
risk of lung and stomach can-
cers, according to a report pub-
lished yesterday by the Health
and Safety Executive, and there
is a need to reduce exposure to
dust and fumes.

The report is the result of a
10-year study covering 41,000 of
the industry's 87,000 employees.
It shows that bladder cancer,

thought to be caused by certain
antioxidants used in the indus-
try up to 1949, is no longer a
threat.

But among the 12,799 who had
worked in factories when the
agents were used, 36 deaths
were found, against 25 expected.
Because of the long period it
takes bladder cancer to develop,
from five to more than 45 years,
cases from the earlier exposures
may still occur until the end of
the century, the report says.

But while the study concludes
that bladder cancer is no longer
a threat, the results indicate
that other cancer-causing agents
may await identification and
elimination.

Across the industry, 822
deaths from lung cancer were
found, against 764 expected, and
in tyre manufacturing, 91
stomach cancer deaths were
found, against 74 expected.

Seven in court after Tube fight

A teenage girl and six young
men were remanded on bail
until June 10 at Willesden
Magistrates' Court, London,
yesterday charged in connection
with an incident at Neasden
Tube station in west London.
They were Karen Taylor,
aged 18, of Oakington Manor
Drive, Wembley; Stephen
Hendy, aged 21, of Neasden
Lane, Willesden; Thomas
Howart, aged 21, of Wilberforce
Road, Highbury; Gerard
Mooney, aged 17, of Storks
Road, Burnt Oak, Edgware;
William Carvey, aged 19, of St
John's Avenue, Willesden;
David Blakeley, aged 17, of
Bruce Road, Willesden; and
Sean Dwyer, aged 21, of Lyon
Park Avenue, Wembley.

All were accused of using
threatening behaviour and Mr
Carvey was also charged with
having an iron bar as an
offensive weapon.

Inquiry into DPP staff member allegations

By Stewart Tendler

Senior Scotland Yard detec-
tives are investigating allega-
tions concerning a member of
the Director of Public Prosecu-
tion's department. The inquiry
has been under way for some
weeks and concerns a barrister,
who has been suspended pend-
ing the outcome.

A spokesman for the DPP's
office yesterday confirmed that
the inquiry was in progress.
Allegations have been made
concerning claims for expenses.

Officers led by a detective
chief superintendent have been
dealing with the inquiry. They
are members of Scotland Yard's
C1 department, which special-
izes in a variety of investiga-
tions ranging from serious crime
to art frauds.

It is understood the inquiry
has been passed to the depart-
ment not because the allega-
tions in themselves could be
described as serious, but be-
cause of the offices in which
they are said to have taken
place. The DPP's department
is responsible for advising the
police on prosecutions.

Although the allegations cast
no aspersions on Sir Thomas
Hetherington, Director of Public
Prosecutions, they do come at
a very awkward time, as Sir
Thomas has been subject to
considerable criticism recently.
Last weekend Sir Michael
Havers, QC, the Attorney
General, said that Sir Thomas
had been subject to an unjusti-
fied sniping campaign over his
handling of advice to Operation
Countryman, the investigation
into allegations of London
police corruption. On the same
day further fuel was added to
the criticism by revelations of
a Scotland Yard report on the
death of Mr Blair Peach.

The revelations suggested
that the DPP had rejected re-
commendations by Scotland
Yard officers that members of
the Special Patrol Group should
be prosecuted.

Will you leave your legacy to the taxman?

Capital Transfer Tax can take more of
your estate than may be necessary. Yet
for the charitably minded it is relatively
simple to minimise the tax penalty, for
legislation permits up to £100,000 to be
excluded from the valuation of an estate
if it is left to charity.

Help the Aged booklets set out the facts
in layman's language—though based on
skilled legal and accountancy advice. The
booklets are yours on request. One covers
ways of reducing Capital Transfer Tax
with a charity bequest, and the other gives
the facts you need to consider before
consulting your solicitor.

Many people are surprised to find that a
bequest need not cost an estate its full
value to the charity. This is one of the
interesting tables worth your study.

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because of loneliness, hunger, bad housing
or ill health, please write for free copies
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Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged,
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RSEAS

Indhi Government withdraws port on allegations abuse during emergency rule

Mr. M. H. Burney, the Home Secretary, who is the ministry's senior civil servant, has just been brought from the backwater of Orissa state service, where he was consigned by the Government after its victory in March, 1977. He was Information Secretary under Mr V. C. Shukla during the emergency when the press was muzzled.

Mr. Giani Singh in the interview declared: "There is no doubt that I am very close to the Gandhi family; frankly speaking my politics are linked with the politics of Indira and Sanjay Gandhi. If someone wants to survive in politics, he must have some godfather."

When Mr. Giani Singh said that Mr. Sanjay Gandhi, now an MP but holding no cabinet post, was his patron, the magazine asked him if he would be prepared to accept guidelines from the Prime Minister's younger son on matters concerning the Home Ministry. Sanjay did not take much interest in my department. But his suggestions will be considered by me with due respect," the Minister replied.

Asked if he thought Mr. Gandhi had the qualities of a good prime minister and national leader, Mr. Giani Singh replied: "No doubt, Sanjay possesses good qualities. He has a vast knowledge about national and international affairs." Mr. Singh, a farmer from the Punjab, was himself the subject of a Shah-type commission of inquiry into alleged abuses of power while he was Punjab's Congress Chief Minister between 1971 and 1977.

Giving his views on how leading civil servants should function and the many recent

transfers which have taken place, the minister said: "Transfer is not punishment. We have brought in only those officers of whom we can depend for vigorous implementation of our programmes irrespective of whether or not they were part of the Government during the emergency."

"We have to implement our party's manifesto and naturally we can transfer those officers who, we believe, may create hindrances."

India Today commented that the American "spoils system" appeared to have replaced India's former neutral civil service inherited from the British.

Mrs. Gandhi today ordered all central and state government departments to devise economic programmes specifically to aid the advancement of India's Harijans (formerly untouchables). In written instructions, the Prime Minister pointed out to officials that while the Harijans constitute 15 per cent of India's population of 630,000,000 they figured disproportionately in all the country's poverty groups.

Most Harijans, she conceded, were living today below the official poverty line. Under a Planning Commission study prepared for the previous government that line was defined as receiving a daily average minimum intake of less than 2,400 calories.

The Prime Minister said the schemes must be oriented to help groups such as landless labourers, artisans, weavers, and rickshaw pullers, all of whom are often Harijans, and their families. She recalled a promise to help such groups, which she made in April, 1975.

From Michael Leppman
New York, March 20

Hundreds of people who live near the Three Mile Island nuclear power station in Pennsylvania protested noisily last night about plans to release radioactive krypton gas from the station into the atmosphere.

The release would be an initial stage of an operation to clean up excessive radiation trapped in the plant, which has been out of action since a serious and almost disastrous accident a year ago.

"Keep your krypton, keep your krypton," chanted the crowd, as officials from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission made a vain attempt to explain that the amount of radiation which people would pick up from the released gas would be infinitesimal.

"We will never forget or forgive what you have put us through," cried one woman, who was five months pregnant. "You are no more worthy than a hunk of cow manure."

The planned gas release would be spread over 60 days. The commission will decide

Americans accused of germ war preparations

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 20

Dismissing American reports of a lethal accident involving bacteria in the Soviet city of Sverdlovsk as newspaper "ravings," the Russians today accused the Americans of making open preparations for chemical and germ warfare.

A Tass report from Washington said that at a time of "chauvinistic and militaristic hysteria" which was being whipped up by the Carter Administration, the Pentagon was going ahead with "sinister designs" to produce and stockpile nerve gases, bacteria causing epidemics and other chemical weapons.

Tass said that the Pentagon was drawing on its wealth of experience in this field gained during the "dirty war" in Vietnam, and now was trying to enlist the support of the West European allies in carrying out plans that were dangerous for all mankind.

The accusation comes hard on the heels of American State Department reports that hundreds of people may have been killed in Sverdlovsk, in the Urals, after accidental exposure to stocks of deadly bacteriological weapons.

Without mentioning Sverdlovsk by name, a Tass commentary today called the reports "another malicious forgery" by The New York Times, and said that the article, first published in the West German Bildzeitung, was an attempt to "pour oil into the flames of anti-Soviet hysteria now being fanned in the West."

The New York Times published these "ravings" because the West was trying to conceal its own military plans. When the newspaper raised the "provocative clamour" about Soviet use of toxic chemicals in Afghanistan, the Pentagon immediately asked Congress for a large increase in spending to develop new generations of chemical weapons.

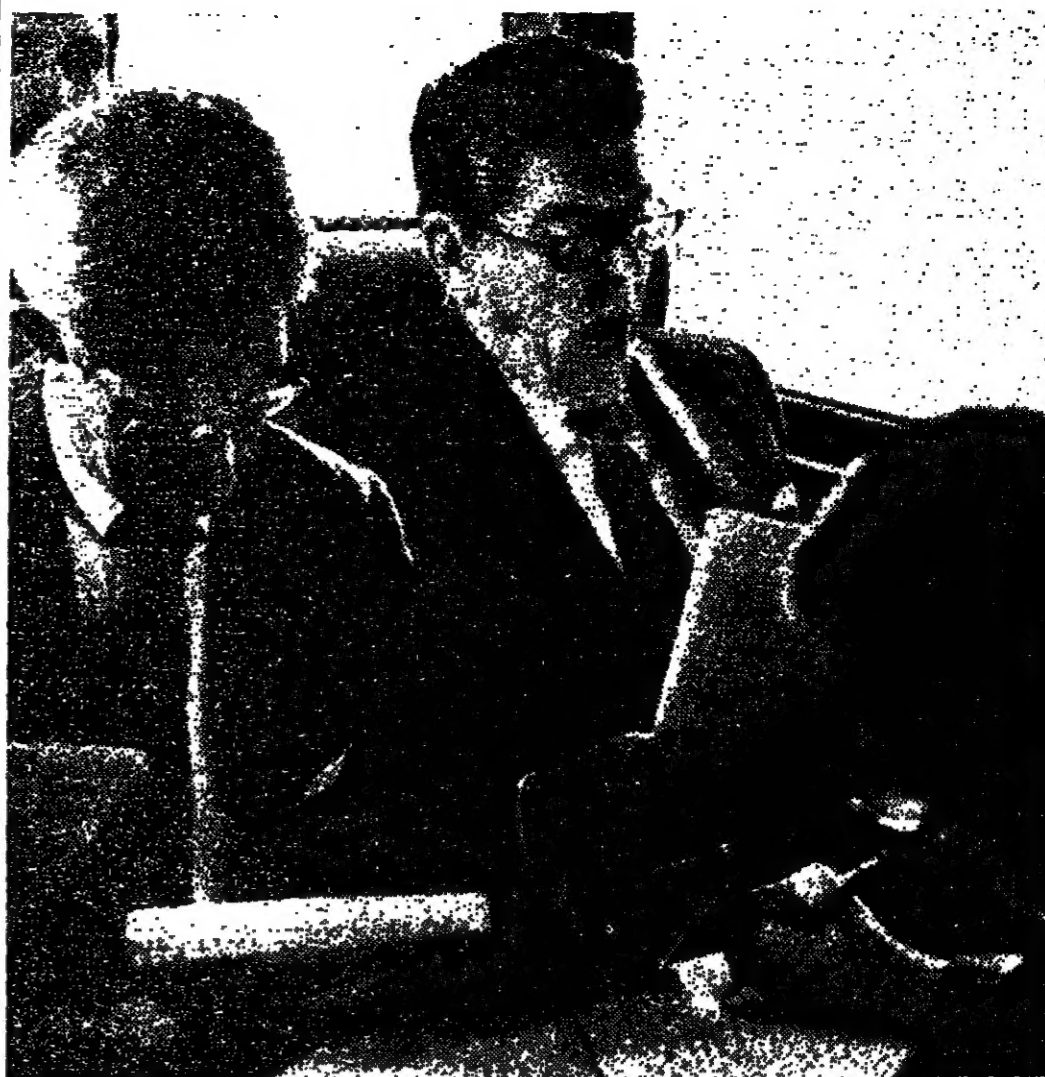
Tass predicted that after the report of the "Urals incident" the Pentagon would ask for billions of dollars more to make bacteriological weapons.

However, the news agency did give a hint that there may have been an epidemic of a large Soviet city, giving rise to the reports. It said that anyone who knew anything about medicine knew that epidemics of various diseases broke out from time to time in various parts of the country.

If all outbreaks of cholera, plague, typhus or foot-and-mouth disease were attributed to "incidents" of the kind the Americans had suggested, then there was plenty of evidence that the West was preparing for a bacteriological war.

"The point is now one looks at these things. The New York Times decided to look at it from the position of ill-wishers and liars."

Tass said that the American authorities had been more than ready to believe the Soviet lie, which had emphasized the provocative nature of the campaign in the American mass media.



Campaign weariness: Mr. Reagan feeling the pace on a train journey to New York.

Political experts start to swallow their predictions

Learning to say President Reagan

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 20

They said it couldn't be done, and it couldn't. Congressman John Anderson, the fighting liberal from Illinois, came out from behind in the Republican presidential race, and challenged the champ, the charismatic but aging Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Anderson beat him in Massachusetts, ran him close in Vermont, there was a prairie fire of enthusiasm across the country and they came face-to-face at last, on Tuesday, in Illinois. The experts said that Mr. Anderson could never do it, and for once the experts were right. He is not going to sweep the field in Illinois, but he is winning the Republican nomination.

I did a rough calculation of his chances before the Illinois primary, adding together all the delegates he might possibly win before the convention. I gave him the benefit of the doubt in every case, giving him a fair share of the delegates in improbable places like Texas and Utah and throwing in all George Bush's delegates. It turned out that even if everything went right for him, he could win the nomination only if he carried California.

In that state whoever wins the Republican primary gets all the delegates—168 out of the 998 needed to win the nomination. Mr. Reagan was governor there for eight years and carried the 1976 primary against Mr. Ford by 65 to 34 per cent.

If Mr. Anderson could not carry Illinois, his home state, in the first flush of his campaign and at the height of his television popularity, then he cannot carry California.

There has been a great swelling of words among the experts, who were so sure that Mr. Reagan could not pull it off. The astonishing thing is that Republicans are behaving like Republicans. They had a number of candidates, Messrs. An-

der, Baker, Bush and Ford, who had the qualifications for the job and a good chance of winning in November. They preferred an elderly actor who is good on television, because he has succeeded in persuading everyone that he is the most conservative of them all.

Such fidelity is usually a recipe for defeat—but because of the economic situation and Mr. Carter's extraordinary ineptitude, Mr. Reagan could quite possibly win, and the right wing of the Republican Party would at last have the President it has mourned since the defeat of Mr. Herbert Hoover.

In previous years, it was often said that the Republicans chose right-wing candidates because only the faithful turned out in the caucuses and committee meetings that chose convention delegates. Furthermore, the low turnout in the primaries was also inclined to help the hard liners, because real, faithful Republicans tend to be much more conservative than the general population.

There are now 37 primaries, compared with 27 last time and many fewer in earlier years. Furthermore, the turnout is far higher (a third higher among Republicans in Illinois, for example) and so is the turnout in the caucuses.

So the old argument will not wash any more. Ronald Reagan is the authentic choice of the Republican Party, and journalists around Washington are therefore prattling sentences with the phrase "President Reagan" in them (as in "President Reagan today ordered the blockade of Cuba...") just to see what they sound like.

It is more than a little disconcerting. A senior reporter here remarked philosophically the other day that he remembered vividly how difficult it was to get used to writing "President Truman" in 1945. Doubtless we will all get used to it quickly enough, and just in case, we are all starting out by paying close attention to what Mr. Reagan has to say now.

US workers watching Los Angeles asbestos trial

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, March 20

At the age of 40, Mr. Richard Hogard suffers from asthma that is so severe that he maintains that he has been unable to take up his job at the Long Beach naval shipyard for the last four years. He says that his breathing problem was caused by inhaling asbestos particles and that the manufacturer of the asbestos, the Johns-Manville Corporation and five other makers of the fibre are responsible for his affliction.

Mr. Hogard is suing the companies for negligence in not warning him of the dangers of their material and this week jury selection in the case begins in the Los Angeles Superior Court of Judge Earl Riley.

At first this might appear to be merely another David and Goliath battle, yet another of the thousands of cases in courts throughout the country of unfortunate workers seeking compensation from employers.

But the progress and outcome of Mr. Hogard's case will be carefully watched by men and women throughout the United States who believe their health has been affected by exposure to asbestos—and by corporation presidents and armies of lawyers who face their day in court.

In Los Angeles alone there are more than 1,000 lawsuits of this kind awaiting trial—many of them against the Johns-Manville Corporation and other asbestos makers. So great is the interest in the case that Judge Riley's court has been enlarged to accommodate the 13 lawyers in the case as well as the overflow of spectators and interested parties.

It is now generally recognized in medical circles that people exposed to asbestos particles—mostly used in the construction of ships, repairing and maintaining them—have developed severe disabling lung and respiratory problems including asbestosis, an irreversible scarring of the lung, as well as many cases of fatal lung cancer.

Mr. Hogard is not seeking a specific amount of damages but asks for compensation for lost wages and injuries to his health. He and the multitude of others who have started lawsuits in Los Angeles alone cases are being filed almost daily allege that the asbestos manufacturers knew about the health hazards of the material as far back as 1938 but never warned the people of those dangers. Johns-Manville first put warning labels on its products in 1964 but other companies did not follow suit until 1972.

Mr. Fulton Haight, a lawyer for the asbestos manufacturers, said that the company, codefendants and even plaintiff employees wanted to settle this first case before trying to settle or otherwise end the hundreds of suits pending in Los Angeles. Any liability or damages handed down by the jury could serve as a guide for other settlement offers.

ia puts er in a pie

From Michael Leppman
New York, March 20

It has dipped its fingers deep into pizza dings to Pennsylvania. The state's Crime Commission disclosed this week an organized crime ring, based in Sicily and in the United States, pizza parlours to its areas of operation.

It has an uncomplicated and simple to prepare, ready-to-eat form, one of the most popular foods in America. It is, as well as the national origin, must add Mafia mobsters business would make sense.

The Commission found Mafia gained influence in a large supplier ingredients and by its agents pizza parlours who refused to accept. The parlour was encouraged to offer a culinary menu means not declaring tax part of the cost of which goes to the state.

Things happened to waters who would not according to the commission. In the last two "Pennsylvania pizza parlours set on fire and four as a result.

Profaci, a son of Joseph Profaci, an Italian organized crime boss named as "an entrepreneurial rights and consultant" for the report proves that crime, in the tradition, can infiltrate an innocuous industry vast cash exposure. Lewis, the commission said.

It other mundane in which the Mafia is have infiltrated are collection, laundry especially for Italian (s) and funeral par-

Three Mile Island outcry over radioactive gas

From Michael Leppman
New York, March 20

Hundreds of people who live near the Three Mile Island nuclear power station in Pennsylvania protested noisily last night about plans to release radioactive krypton gas from the station into the atmosphere.

The release would be an initial stage of an operation to clean up excessive radiation trapped in the plant, which has been out of action since a serious and almost disastrous accident a year ago.

"Keep your krypton, keep your krypton," chanted the crowd, as officials from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission made a vain attempt to explain that the amount of radiation which people would pick up from the released gas would be infinitesimal.

"We will never forget or forgive what you have put us through," cried one woman, who was five months pregnant. "You are no more worthy than a hunk of cow manure."

The planned gas release would be spread over 60 days. The commission will decide

next month whether to let Metropolitan Edison, which owns the plant, go ahead with it.

Experts say that the maximum dose of radiation anyone could pick up would be one-fifth of a millirem, compared with the 35 millirems sustained in the chest X-ray. A much smaller quantity of krypton was released from an airlock last week, provoking protests.

According to the company, the only alternative method of getting the gas out of the plant would be to build a container for it, which would take two years and would be costly.

Many local residents, however, distrust the company and the commission because of the confusion and misinformation which emanated from both during the 11-day accident when the radioactive core of the power station overheated and was damaged almost a year ago.

According to a recent report, if the overheating had continued for another 30 to 60 minutes, the core would have melted and large amounts of radiation could have been released.

Bank robber recalls case of British writer's murder

From Mario Modiano
Athens, March 20

An unidentified armed man who held up an Athens savings bank last night told the employees he would return the money when the man convicted for the murder of Alan Chapman, a London freelance journalist, was set free.

The man got away with the equivalent of £4,000, though the cashier managed to sound the alarm. The police assume he must be the same man who carried out the other successful robberies in postal savings banks in central Athens in recent months. Each time he would up the robbery with a smile and the phrase: "I will return the money when Moundis is set free."

Nicos Moundis, who is 43 and a former prison guard, is serving a life sentence after being found guilty of the murder of Miss Chapman in the seaside suburb of Kavouri in October, 1971.

Miss Chapman, who was visiting Greece at the invitation of a London travel agency, was found strangled in an empty field. Mr. Moundis retracted his original confession made to the police, which he maintained had been obtained under duress.

The victim's father, Mr. Edward Chapman, of Furney, believes his daughter died during an interrogation by the Greek junta's security police which, he asserts, subsequently staged the killing.

Mr. Chapman's efforts since the fall of the junta to induce the Greek Government to reopen the investigation of the murder of the blanks left by the Moundis trial, have been unsuccessful.

Mr. Moundis's plea for a retrial was rejected by the penal section of the Supreme Court in July, 1978, by four votes against three. The three judges filed a minority opinion which queried the evidence used to convict him.

Angered Jews could swing New York vote

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 20

President Carter's attempt to win back New York's Jewish voters foundered badly last night when Mr. Robert Strauss, the chairman of his reelection campaign, stated at a fund-raising meeting of Jewish leaders after being constantly interrupted while speaking to them.

Although Mr. Carter can now hardly be defeated for the Democratic Party's nomination, campaign managers are worried about the Jewish vote in next week's New York primary poll. Jewish voters could swing the primary in Senator Edward Kennedy's race, which is a fund-raising meeting of Jewish leaders after being constantly interrupted while speaking to them.

"I did not come here to put up with you," Mr. Strauss told a rabbi at the meeting who had sought to question him on the President's Middle East policies, which are particularly the vote later reversed for a United Nations resolution denouncing Israel's West Bank settlements.

London group canvasses for Mr Carter

By Ian Bradley

A committee has been set up in London to canvass for the Carter-Mondale campaign among the 100,000 Americans living in Britain.

One of its members, Mr. Stephen Lloyd, a lecturer at the London Business School, said it would be working specifically to persuade Democrats in Britain to register so that they could vote in the overseas primary election as well as in the presidential election.

"Democrats Abroad" will have eight voting delegates with half a vote each and four alternative delegates at the Democratic convention in New York in August. Seven of these delegates will be chosen by a postal ballot of all registered Democrats in countries organized by May 18, and the other five at a public meeting in London on June 7.

A committee to support the candidacy of Senator Edward Kennedy in Britain, formed at the end of last year, is also working actively along the same lines.

Overseas primaries were introduced in 1976 for the 2,000,000 Americans estimated to be living outside the United States.

Peking Foreign minister's first visit to Hongkong

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong, March 20

The one-night stopover in Hongkong of Mr. Huang Hua, the Chinese Foreign Minister, confirmed that New China news agency and not the People's Bank of China is now Peking's main unofficial contact with Hongkong.

The first director of the Hongkong branch of the news agency, Mr. Wang Kuan, met Mr. Huang at the airport on his arrival yesterday and, together with Sir Murray MacLehose, the governor, formally wished him farewell on his departure for Peking today.

Mr. Huang has just finished a one-week tour of the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore in an endeavour to improve relations with members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

He is the first communist foreign minister to visit Hongkong. In May, 1955, Mr. Zhou En-fai, who was then the Prime Minister, stopped for one hour at the old Hongkong airport on his way to the Bandung conference in Indonesia.

Sir Murray entertained Mr. Huang to dinner at Government House last night where he met senior government officials and civic leaders.

He was the last westerner to be in a Chinese prison as a result of the Cultural Revolution, which released only three years ago. He was also the only foreigner to have had fairly close ties with the entourage of Mao Tse-tung and his wife Jiang Qing, who today is herself in jail.

During the Cultural Revolution he seized control of Peking radio at the head of a Red Guard faction called the "combat corps for the thoughts of Mao Tse-tung." This led to his arrest and imprisonment in 1968 after order was restored.

Taiwan dissident blames police for causing riot

Taipei, March 20.—One of Taiwan's leading political dissidents said today at his trial for sedition that an anti-government riot last December could have been avoided if the police had not fired without warning into a crowd.

Shih Ming-tsh, aged 39, is one of eight former executives of the now banned political magazine Formosa charged with attempting to overthrow the Government by illegal means after the riot in which 183 members of the security forces were injured.

He told the court a rally organized by Formosa in the southern city of Kaohsiung had been peaceful until the crowd of about 10,000 people was encircled by security forces.

Mr. Shih, general manager of Formosa who has spent nearly half his life in jail on sedition charges, said tear gas bombs were fired after negotiations with the authorities failed.

He said that the magazine, which frequently criticized the Government, was founded last August with the aim of establishing a base for legal opposition and an opposition party. He denied he was plotting with the others to overthrow the Government.

The president of the five-member tribunal hearing the case has announced that it will investigate several charges that the defendants' confessions were made under pressure. Reuters.

er Rouge from mistakes

From Neil Kelly
Camp Reahou, Kampuchea, March 20

Something akin to civil war over the past two days has killed at least 26 people, wounded 50 and driven one of Kampuchea's "border warlords" from control of Camp Reahou, an encampment of 100,000 Kampuchean stragglers on the border 175 miles east of Bangkok.

Ten children died in the fighting, which went on for several hours. More than 30 large grass and bamboo buildings were destroyed in the fighting and by fire later.

The fighting involved bodies were displayed to visiting journalists in one building near camp headquarters which had been destroyed by fire. Three bodies of young men, shot through the head and bound as for execution, lay on the roadside inside Thailand about two miles from the camp.

Details of the fighting and of those taking part in it are confused. An independent foreign observer who was here yesterday said an explosion of five mortar bombs killed five people and destroyed the sound of rocket-propelled grenades.

Thai army officers on the

Warlord ousted in refugee fighting

border said that Vietnamese forces had not taken part in the fighting, but Mr. Wan Saria, the commander of the camp, said that Vietnamese mortars had fired into the camp from a distance of just over a mile.

Mr. Saria said that left-wing Khmer Rouge forces had attacked the camp after Vietnamese mortar fire. The object of both attacks was to kill him.

Some Kampuchean here said that a number of people in the camp had joined forces hostile to the right-wing Khmer Rouge. They said he was hated for his dictatorial methods and his profiteering from foreign food aid.

Mr. Saria was the most powerful of the "border warlords" and his overthrow will have important repercussions among all Kampuchean forces resisting the Vietnamese.

His own future is uncertain. Today, as he sheltered in a Thai Army fire base about two miles from his old camp, he said he would be killed if the Thais forced him to return to his old camp.

Most of the tens of thousands of Kampuchean who fled from the camp during the fighting have returned there by tonight. Those who have not

returned will not be allowed to stay on Thai territory.

The first signs of Thailand's tougher policy towards refugees are visible in this district. The Thais have in effect closed the border to all Kampuchean, even those trying to enter the huge holding centre of 112,000 refugees at Khao-I-Dang eight miles from the border.

Some 69 refugees who arrived at the holding centre in the past two days have been returned to the border and told they must not move into Thailand. When they protested on humanitarian grounds they were told by the Thai Army that they had to accept the situation.

One man who was kept under guard today while awaiting to be taken back to the border, said his wife was in the Khao-I-Dang camp.

"She is just over there somewhere and I am not allowed to look for her."

Money back: The Vietnamese supported Government of Kampuchea has issued a new currency, almost five years after money was abolished by the former Khmer Rouge regime, the Phnom Penh news agency SPK reported today. It gave no exchange rates against foreign currencies.

Foreign Report
is on page 18

Vietnam paints bright picture but admits hunger exists

Hanoi, March 20.—Hunger, prostitution, black marketeering, robbery and corruption are still features of Saigon life in 1980, according to a pamphlet released in Hanoi by the official Vietnamese news agency.

But Saigon has changed considerably in the last five years, according to the pamphlet.

"You can move around in the city, even after dark, with no more danger than you would in any American city," it says.

"Drug-peddling and prostitution are no longer rampant. Food is still a problem, but nobody is dying of hunger."

The pamphlet says that the Vietnamese Government could have, in the manner of Mr. Pol Pot, the ousted Kampuchean leader, claim to be carrying out a radical revolution.

"We didn't do that," it adds.

"You don't transform a society with machine guns."

In spite of "grumbling over some aspects of the present picture," most people in Saigon are behind the regime, the pamphlet says. It points to achievements in education and health.

It says there is a favourable consensus throughout Vietnam on the policies pursued by the government. As a result, Vietnam is a nation without a "political opposition," it contends.

"A country has a political opposition when a party, a group, or an individual comes forward to tell the government: 'Let us take over,' and when a sizable portion of the people is ready to follow."

"There is nothing like this in Vietnam. No group or personality can claim in good faith to do better than the

present Government is doing. People want and demand changes in such and such an area or in such and such a policy—but not a change of regime."

The pamphlet provides no information on the number of people undergoing reeducation in camps, but says that "no more humane policy could possibly have been adopted" for those guilty of "high treason crimes" punishable by death or life imprisonment.

"We will free these people when it is no longer dangerous to do so," the pamphlet says. It adds: "This has already been done in many cases."

"For those still in detention, their future depends on their attitude, though also on the situation in general. Clearly the threat of war from the Peking-Washington axis that

hangs over our country is delaying their release."

The pamphlet puts the number of "boat people" who left the country between 1975 and 1980 at 350,000.

"For Vietnam, those leaving are still fellow countrymen and brothers, and we appeal to the international community to provide them with all necessary help."

Concluding on an optimistic note, the pamphlet states: "Our people are hardworking and alive to their responsibilities. When it makes mistakes it has the courage to critique itself. That is part of its great strength. But it is not all up to us. It also depends on the future of our international relationships."—Agence France-Press.

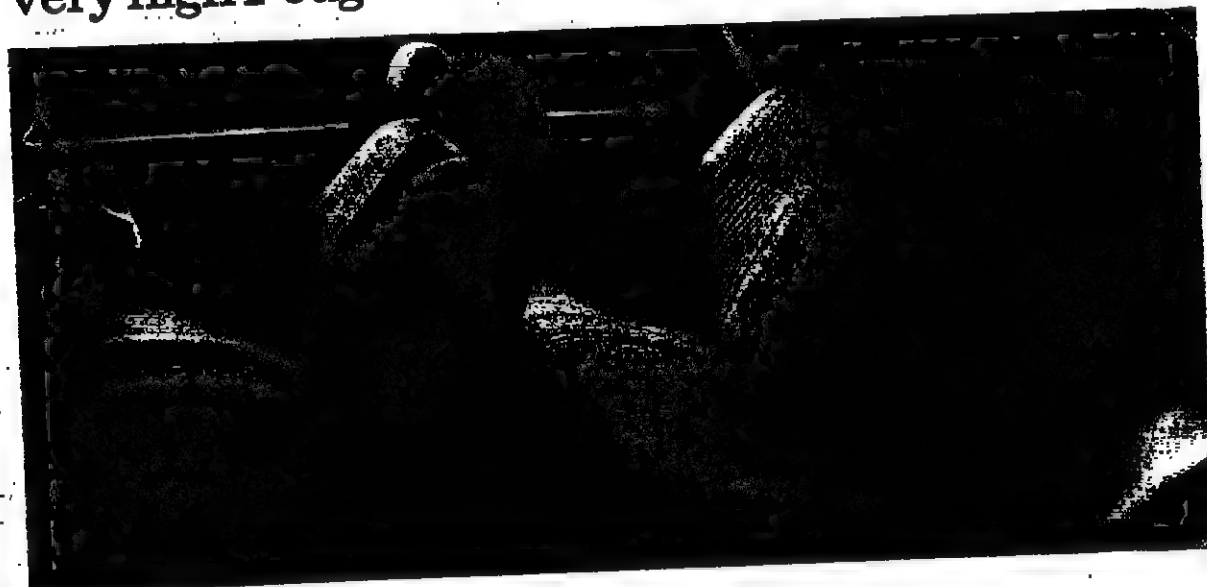
The Peugeot 505



"What the Experts Say"

"Comfort in the 505 starts with the seats... and continues with the ride, which is simply, up to the very high Peugeot standard."

Observer, November 1979



505 STI Interior

"With the 505, Peugeot have achieved their aim to produce a car that has the excellent ride, good noise suppression and comfort of a limousine, but that has the sporty appeal of cars from a marque such as BMW."

What Car?, November 1979

"Quite simply, the 505 is an excellent motorcar... good at most things, excellent at some, and poor at none."

Motor, November 1979



505 GR

The newly introduced 505 range includes six luxury saloons. You have the choice of 2 litre carburettor, fuel injection or 2.8 litre diesel power, all available with luxury "S" trim.

"The 505's main appeal is that it is a particularly well balanced all-rounder, notable for its quietness and comfort."

Daily Telegraph, November 1979

"As always in a Peugeot, the ride quality is superb."

Financial Times, December 1979

"It is, above all, a well-balanced car: quiet, well-sprung and pleasant to handle."

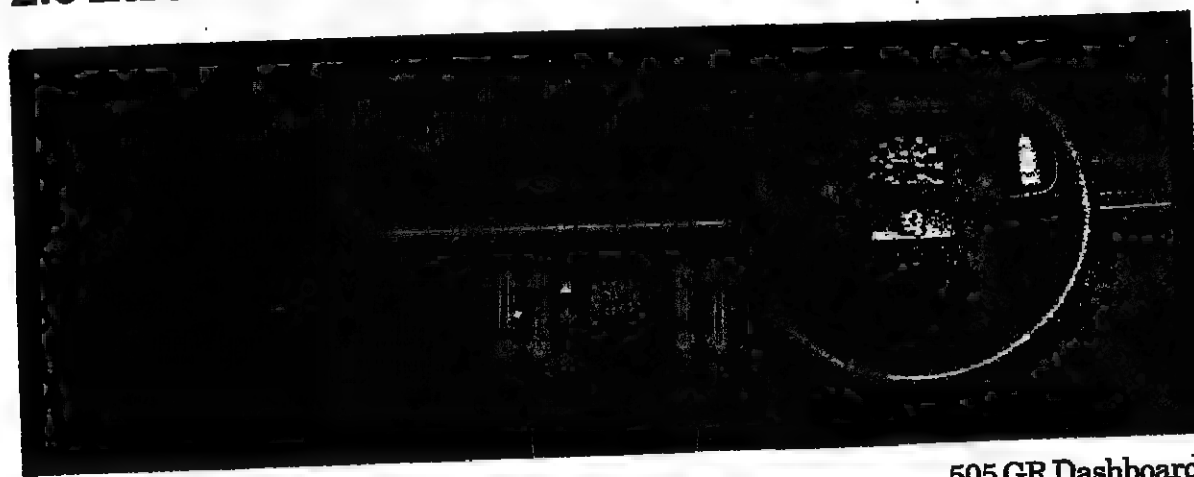
Sunday Telegraph, December 1979

"Ride and handling of the 505 was impressive. Towcar of the Year 1980, the Peugeot 505 SR."

Caravan, December 1979

"TI/STI with new Douvrin engine is the definitive 2.0 litre four-door saloon."

Car Magazine, December 1979



505 GR Dashboard

Peugeot 505 TI wins German Golden Steering Wheel Award. This is the first time a non-German car has won this accolade, sponsored by the Springer Group, publisher of Europe's largest Sunday newspaper



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Two neighbouring London boroughs—but so different in the way they tackle inner city decay.

Why the left costs more than the right



A tale of two town halls: Lambeth (left) believe in spending on services. Wandsworth believe in saving... but maintain that their cuts are so well arranged that the public will hardly notice them.



Local government claims that it is always a difficult year to balance the needs of the community against the cost of services and against the background of government requirements to curb expenditure. This year is arguably the worst for some time because of rising inflation and the severity of the spending cuts required. The pressures on local authorities have not been helped by the hostility between the Conservative government and the Labour opposition. As a result local government is more politically motivated than before and the attitudes of Conservative and Labour councils more polarized.

With few exceptions Conservative authorities have made the required cuts and kept rates down, while Labour councils, reluctant to reduce services, have had to put the cost on the rates. For inner city authorities the difficulties were accentuated by the Government's decision to halt the increased flow of resources to the cities. The non-metropolitan areas have benefited at their expense, and since Labour authorities predominate in the inner cities, this has increased the likelihood of Labour councils standing at the head of any league table for rate rises.

In London, the boroughs of Lambeth and Wandsworth pro-

vide a vivid example of the different attitudes adopted in tackling the deprivation of the inner city areas in the light of financial difficulty. Lambeth's leader, Mr. Edward Knight, champion of the Labour party principle that services must be maintained, faces Mr. Christopher Chope, Wandsworth's Conservative leader, who judges by the enthusiastic reception he received at the party's recent local government conference is fast becoming a paragon of Tory realist virtue.

The boroughs jostle uneasily together on the south of the Thames, both suffering similar inner city decay, marked by high unemployment, derelict land and bad housing. There the comparisons end. Two years ago, at the end of a Labour administration in Wandsworth, its rates were higher than in Lambeth, the picture now is very different. In Wandsworth, Labour rates are £206, those for Wandsworth £166. Next year the figures will be roughly £300 against £200.

Mr Knight is not without sympathy for his ratepayers. "I think it's unfair on them

because I don't think the problems of the inner cities should be solely the concern of inner city dwellers. Ratepayers should not have to pick up the bill for these problems, but faced with a national government which refuses to give enough help we have to charge them."

Last year's rate increase of more than 30 per cent was made to cover the expanded services for which the council was elected in 1978, while this year's 49 per cent increase is necessitated by the reduced Government rate support grant, he says. "For every £1 we require this year, we need another 64p for the coming year, of which the rate support grant provides only 17p."

The council had considered cutting £3m from the budget but found that would mean closing children's and old people's homes, reducing the mental and physical handicapped.

"We felt that it would not be acceptable to a Labour council. We were elected to meet the problems of an inner city borough with special needs. Looking across to Wandsworth, he saw social chaos because of the cuts in staff and services, striking hard at those who needed them. Mr Knight believed that his

own borough was having to provide for some of the need created, but not satisfied in Wandsworth. "We get some comeback on social services. If you have a borough depriving its older population, there is an overflow into our borough."

The final words for Lambeth uphold their policy. "We are certainly as efficient as Wandsworth," says Mr Knight. "Our council's objective is to meet the needs of the area, and we do provide better services than Wandsworth."

Lambeth has not cut its staff because "if you have the services, you need managers and the people to deliver the services."

Lambeth has a population of about 270,000, a staff of 10,200—500 more than a year ago—and a spending budget of £83m. Wandsworth has a population of 275,000, a staff of 7,200—1,000 less than two years ago—and a budget of £51m.

The staff difference between the boroughs is substantial, and the reduction in Wandsworth since the Conservatives gained control in 1978 is the sort of saving close to the heart of Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary. He sees it as the key to the achievement of public sector savings and has practised what he preaches by doing just that in his own department.

Mr Chope, a barrister in command of his brief, argues that Wandsworth's economy is greatly helped by having fewer staff and less bureaucracy. He believes that for the bulk of the services provided the public will not notice any cuts. Ironically, the Conservatives were helped by Wandsworth's previous Labour administration, which consistently had high rate increases and left them with a cushion. The result was a 31 per cent increase last year and 18 per cent for the coming year.

In small, noticeable areas, the service is reduced—in public laundries and baths—and the council has closed a public convenience which did not receive sufficient custom to justify the staff costs.

Encouraging self-help, the council has brought in housing associations and has handed over preschool groups with a large grant to community groups. "We have got to have services that we can afford."

Mr Chope accepts that it is early to tell whether his council is succeeding, but says there is less unemployment than before. "We have tried to encourage industry to come in, and it seems to have worked. Skilled people are the key. They want their own house, so we have a house-for-sale policy. We are trying to create a better atmosphere so

that the able-bodied do not leave, and we have stopped the mass exodus of a year or two back."

The rate base has also gone up. Last year a 1p rate raised £464,000 and in 1980-81 it will raise £495,000.

Mr Chope's conclusion: "Certainly in value for money we provide a better service. Driving through Lambeth one can see the deterioration. Their roads are not as well maintained."

"In some services perhaps Lambeth provides a little more, where they spend more. But it is going to think we are mean and not doing anything. We make sure though that we are realistic and do what we can afford."

The net result is that Wandsworth receives a part on the back and Lambeth is on the front. Mr Knight, who has been in the front line for years, says: "Red Ted", as he is affectionately known—has the light of battle in his eye and positively looks forward to standing in the penultimate box. But he wants his Labour council colleagues up and down the country to join him, and a few almost certainly will.

Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Geoffrey Smith

The younger men that Mrs Thatcher must convince of her strategy

Backbenchers are not rebellious 'but there is a quiet lack of conviction in the Government's doctrines and judgment'

At the start of this week it looked as if the Government might be embarrassed by the House of Commons debate on the Olympics boycott. As it turned out, they were given more cause for anxiety by Tuesday's debate on the upping of child benefits. This was not because they were brought even near to defeat by the attempt to commit them to a specific level of benefit, from next November, the rebels deliberately did no more than offer a token gesture of protest on this occasion.

But the tone of the debate, and the other indications of potential rebellion on this issue, indicate that the Government might be in parliamentary difficulties if they do not announce next week that child benefits will be increased by something like the sum needed to compensate for inflation—through the reaction of the backbenchers will be influenced by the overall nature of the Budget.

In one sense, the child benefit might be regarded as a single-issue question. Potential rebels have been brought together from right across the party. The taunt used in the course of the debate, that there is a Tory Tribune Group, is inaccurate. The lines of protest in the Conservative Party are not drawn as precisely as that.

Those who feel strongly about child benefits are not necessarily exercised about keeping all social security payments in line with inflation or preserving the earnings-related element in unemployment benefit. There is none the less a significant overlap between unease over child benefits and other matters.

Quite a number of the child benefit campaigners are also unhappy not about the Government's proposals but about their tactics. They agree with the priority given to controlling inflation, the need to reduce public expenditure and to cut taxation. But they are not persuaded of the necessity to attach overriding importance to an exact figure for the public sector borrowing requirement; they fear that substantial sections of industry might be bankrupted in the cause of balancing the national books; and they consider to be the inadequacy of the Government's social policy in general.

The new intake of Conservative MPs, among them a number with exceptional political experience and capacity, prominent in this category. So too are some of the most able of other recent entrants. This is why the child benefit debate should be a cause of wider anxiety for the Government, going quite beyond the immediate issue; and I am

not attempting to belittle the importance of that.

It was indirectly a reminder of the extent to which the Government has yet to convince its supporters in Parliament, especially the younger members, of the wisdom of its approach. There is no mood of seething rebellion on the backbenches, but there is a quiet lack of conviction in the Government's doctrines and judgment.

For how long will this remain quiet? That will depend largely on events. There is no eagerness to prove the Government wrong, and only a minority of Conservative MPs definitely believe them to be mistaken—though, as I have indicated, this minority includes a high proportion of the ablest younger ones. But there is probably a majority who are doubtful about the Government's approach, not convinced that ministers have got it wrong but without much confidence that they have got it right.

Such a spirit of uneasy agnosticism is enough to carry any British government along until the point is reached when things are felt to be going badly awry. Even then the Tory tradition of loyalty has sustained many a Conservative government through a bad patch in the past. But undiluted loyalty is no longer a feature of British politics in any party these days.

In an important book to be published next week Dr Philip Norton of Hull University analyzes the increased propensity of MPs to rebel against their party whips in recent years. It is hardly surprising that there should have been more government defeats in the House of Commons during the years of Labour minority rule. But Dr Norton points out that of 42 defeats in the last Parliament 19 were attributable to opposition parties combining against a minority govern-

ment and the remainder to Labour members combining with opposition members to defeat their own side.

That was partly because of the quite exceptional issue of devolution, which cut across party lines, and partly also perhaps because the very existence of a minority administration may have encouraged the belief that it could be defeated on specific questions without suffering as much damage to its reputation as it would under normal circumstances.

Mr Norton's thesis, though, is that the greater tendency to rebel was evident during Mr Heath's premiership of 1970-74, when the Government was defeated six times through cross-voting by Conservative backbenchers. Half of those defeats occurred on three-line whips.

Yet none of them was on items central to the Government's policy, and I am not sure how far the old discipline has broken down under the usual conditions of a majority government. The experience of this Parliament will tell us. Certainly the power of the whips remains strong, but already the Government have been forced by the reaction on the floor of the House to give way over MPs' pay.

Parliamentary pressure was a principal cause of the retreat

over the proposed cuts in the BBC external services. The belief that the House would not have renewed the order for Rhodesian sanctions was an important factor in the Lancaster House negotiations, and soon we shall see if the pressure over child benefits has been effective.

What is beyond doubt is that a more assertive and independent breed of MP is entering the House these days. They are professionals in the sense of devoting their careers to politics, even if they retain another job on the side. They have gone into Parliament not to be the best club in Europe but because they want to have a direct influence on public policy. That was always true, of course, of the number of members, nowadays it applies to nearly all new entrants.

It follows that there are therefore a higher proportion of ambitious and potentially frustrated backbenchers who are determined to exercise their own judgment on public policy. The lesson for this is indeed for any government is that on child benefits as on other issues the agreement of the new breed of member will have to be won by persuasion.

"Discipline in the House of Commons 1974-79." By Philip Norton. Clarendon Press. (£28.50).

The power that public opinion wields

Fundamental changes in the world often occur without being noticed. An instance of this has been the important change which has been taking place since the Second World War, in the sense of gravity of power, from governments to public opinion. Two factors rendered this change inevitable:

1. Higher standards of literacy and education, which enabled public opinion to be much better informed on national and international affairs than ever before. This has enabled public opinion to make its own assessment of different situations, also, public opinion became more discerning.

2. The development of the mass media—printed and audiovisual—has brought news, information and views instantly to the entire human race. Even people who cannot read are instantly informed of events as they take place throughout the world. People in the most isolated and impoverished rural areas, usually have access to transistor radios. Not only have they access to the news services provided by their own national radio network, but in most cases they also have access to a multiplicity of different news and information services; these compete with each other to reach the ears, minds and consciences of mankind. The most potent instrument of public information.

The combination of these two elements has brought about a complete shift in the centre of gravity of political power in the world. Public opinion is now in a position to judge and to exercise judgment on most important situations in the world. Inevitably, public opinion forms its own judgment and takes sides.

Another facet of the same development is that public opinion has been gradually learning how to make its voice heard and thus to exercise power. In democratic countries where there are a multiplicity of political parties, political parties now have to organize opinion polls to ensure that their policies are in conformity with the trends of public opinion. These public opinion polls are already exerting considerable influence in the shaping of policy by parties. The art of the public opinion poll as a method of influencing policy is only still in its infancy.

In one-party states, governments are beginning to realize that they, too, must inform and consult the members of the "one-party" more closely than before. Not only that, but the "one-party" is being forced more and more to "listen" to the closer touch with its own grass roots and with the general public. As a result of the better information services, and a multiplicity of sources of information, the members of the "one-party" in one-party states are more critical of government policies and insist upon being better informed and on "being heard". Were it not for this important development, the "dissidents" in Eastern Europe or in China, would never have been heard of.

While this growth in the importance of public opinion and the consequential decrease of the omnipotence of governmental authority were inevitable, and should have been foreseen, governments have been slow to accept and to adjust to these fundamental changes.

Outstanding instances of outward manifestations of the result of the growing power of public opinion as against the omnipotence of governments, are many. For example, the ending of the Franco-Algerian conflict.

Everyone is to freedom of right shall be, the present situation of the world is a result of the growth of public opinion as against the omnipotence of governments, are many. For example, the ending of the Franco-Algerian conflict.

Last night the critic E. T. Greep appeared about my pleasure boat, (the *Paragon*) and addressed a bar-stool in his lounge and said: "The world was up in arms. The boat was the post-Orpheus not up and sang the story of Creation, to dispel all thought of strife."

"It was," continued Greep, "an occasion of rapture. Expressed (of course) by silence conversion into amity of hate."

"And is," knocking his pipe out of my mouth, "the only kind of poem known as great."

Michael Binyon

Russia has flying saucers too

There was a play running in Moscow recently entitled simply "NLO"—the Russian abbreviation for UFO, unidentified flying object. The main character, who is going through a domestic crisis, periodically turns on the radio and each time hears a snatch of a programme about flying saucers, the abominable snowman, the Bermuda triangle or the lost continent of Atlantis. He begins to wonder whether he or the real world is going insane.

For millions of Russians, these things, if not real, are a source of endless fascination and speculation about them, official and unofficial, is almost obsessive. The papers are for ever discussing this or that scientific explanation of these phenomena. Scientific expeditions are sent off to look for Atlantis or the yeti or the mysterious vortex in the sea. Russians devour every scrap of information they can get hold of about similar searches overseas.

But the mystery no Russian can resist is flying saucers. "The sky was black, cloudless with many stars and the constellations were easily seen," a reader from Omsk recently told Pravda. "Among them I saw an especially bright star from which there came a glow. At first I thought it was a satellite, but over the like the 'globe' began to descend, and the cloud around it grew larger."

"In the sky above the mountains an object moved rather fast and high in an upward trajectory, leaving behind a wide, straight white trail very similar to the trace of a plane though much wider. There was no sound or noise of any kind."

The reader was mistaken, Pravda said categorically: scientists do not even recognize the term UFO. Everything can be explained by cloud formations or atmospheric conditions. Nevertheless Soviet scientists spend a great deal of time writing about flying saucers, in-

vestigating reported sightings and trying to convince crowded lecture halls that the little green men do not exist. It seems to be a losing battle. The greater the anti-saucer propaganda, the more obstinately belief in them grows.

Official attempts to discredit and refute all accounts and rumours about space vehicles from other planets and encounters with alien beings have intensified as popular interest in the subject has grown. Some years ago there was a tendency to deny outright the existence of any sort of unidentified flying object and appropriate statements by prominent scientists were used to back up this argument.

In 1958, for example, the director of the astronomy council of the Soviet Academy of Sciences told Pravda that any object flying over Soviet territory could not fail to be identified by scientists or by the military authorities.

But Russians' beliefs were not shaken and have been reinforced by suitably embellished reports of sightings abroad. So in the most recent Pravda

article on the subject the director of the Institute of Earth Magnetism and Ionosphere said that in fact many atmospheric phenomena observed by people were hard to explain.

He said these events had to be classified, investigated and objectively evaluated. But research should make use only of verifiable facts and information and should pay no attention to the "inflamed fantasies of those seeking sensations."

The paper went on to describe some of the things Russians claim to have seen in the heavens: usually bright stars, discs, lobes, cymbals, cigars, double and single crescents, triangles and squares.

Most of these, the paper said, could be put down to atmospheric effects at dusk. But the correspondent said he witnessed the birth of one wave of saucer-sightings when several geophysical research rockets were launched. They left a brightly coloured sodium cloud floating in the sky. Immediately letters started pouring into the Pravda office reporting flying saucers.

The campaign against UFOs has now been broadened to enlist the services of sociologists and ethnographers. Last year the journal *Soviet Ethnography* maintained that the popular idea that the saucers are piloted by what the Russians call "ufonuts" or "humanoids" was nothing more than a modernized version of the old fairy stories about people encountering evil spirits—devils, witches, wood-goblins, water-sprites and so on.

Last year also the paper *Zhurnalists* published a theory that the unidentified flying objects were really only zones of very highly ionized air or zones of chemoluminescence. Depending on its chemical composition, such a zone could assume all kinds of hues, and an encounter with one could have fatal consequences for the pilot of an aircraft. The paper said this explained, for example, the disappearance of a whole flight of American military aircraft above the notorious Bermuda triangle.

Popular theories are far more romantic. A woman maintained that icons painted hundreds of years ago included uncanny resemblances to descriptions of UFOs. And one young man, I know now refuses to visit his uncle because he cannot stand the constant talk of flying saucers.

The belief now has such a grip on the population that it has almost assumed ideological overtones, and the anti-saucer campaign is being directed by the very highest party circles.

Inevitably this means that all public discussion of the matter is now subject to political authorization. The taboos are such that some Soviet journalists have been unable to put forward their theories for years.

Strange luminous effects, similar to gigantic fireworks, were observed in the Petrozavodsk area, near Finland, in 1977 and inevitably set off a chain of rumours; but the scientific explanations had to wait until they were fully approved after lengthy discussion.

The Soviet Academy of Sciences is said to have a number of bodies that have been investigating UFOs for some years, but its members are reluctant to talk publicly about what they have found and the academy has not published any reports on the subject.

People say that Soviet cosmonauts have seen flying saucers. This was one of the first questions to the cosmonauts who spent their first part of six months up in the orbiting space station Salyut-6.

"Ground control cheerfully told us once that flying saucers were floating around us," the commander, Georgi Grechko, replied. "We looked in the video-scanner and in fact there was something rather similar not far from the spacecraft, but it turned out to be containers with our rubbish, which followed Salyut-6 until we changed orbit."

Pravda asserted a few weeks ago that no Soviet cosmonaut has ever seen a spacecraft from any other planet. But to the UFOphiles this is no more convincing than Mr Khrushchev's reported statement, demonstrating the falsity of religion, that Yuri Gagarin had never seen an angel.

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SINGAPORE



Eric Measner

At the start of the 1980s Singapore is entering the second phase of its development as an independent nation. During the 1970s decade it should both transform its economy and renew its political leadership. The two processes have already been in motion by a government which likes to anticipate the future.

July a policy to raise to meet increased demand by 2 per cent a year for medical care, education, travel and leisure, and also the next three to four years to effect its switch from a process of industrialisation to a process of service-oriented production.

Although it is too early to say whether Singapore will realize this millennial dream, the signs so far are encouraging. New investment in manufacturing totalled \$944.6m (£189m) last year, 13 per cent more than in 1978. Press reports have indicated on the one hand that labour-intensive industries are moving across the causeway into Malaysia, and on the other that companies in Singapore are applying for help from the new government training fund.

The budget for 1980-81, presented earlier this month, gave fresh impetus to the restructuring of the economy by boosting development estimates to \$3,600m (£720m), a rise of 41.3 per cent. Loans to industrial and commercial enterprises will double in the coming year and grants to the Vocational and Industrial Training Board will triple.

The budget also introduced wide-ranging tax concessions for research and development, raised capital allowances for plant and machinery and, in an attempt to strengthen Singapore's role as a financial centre, reduced or abolished many stamp duties.

The man in charge of executing the new economic policy is Mr Goh Chok Tong, former managing director of a shipping company who is now Minister for Trade and Industry. He is the most prominent of a group of men in their late thirties and early forties who are viewed as possible successors to Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, and his contemporaries. Professional men rather than career politicians, they have been propelled into high office, where their performance is under close scrutiny.

Others in this second generation of leaders are: Ong Teong Cheong, a former architect who is Minister of Communications and Acting Minister for Culture; Dr Ahmad Masar, formerly a university lecturer, now Acting Minister for Social Affairs; S. Dhanabalan,

former executive vice-president of the Development Bank of Singapore, now Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Dr Tony Tan, a former banker who is Senior Minister of State for Education; Lim Chee Onn, Secretary-General of the NTUC, which is almost inseparable from the ruling People's Action Party (PAP); Bernard Chen, a former civil servant who is Minister of State for Defence.

Close observers of Singaporean politics doubt whether these young men as

yet have much freedom of manoeuvre, apart from Mr Goh, who is a Cabinet member, travels abroad officially on his own, and has presented the country's last two budgets.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew gives the impression that he is not yet sure whether his successor is among this group. It was necessary, he said in a speech in January, to "comb systematically all the top echelons of all sectors in Singapore for potential leaders—every professional, every sector: commerce, manufacturing, trade

unions, sports associations". It is difficult for a man who has done so much to mould this tiny island into what it is today to let go of the reins. As Dr Toh Chiu Chye, one of the PAP's founding members put it: "It is easier to organise the administration of a country than its political succession". However, the ultimate measure of a leader's stature is to achieve a smooth transition of power.

The new batch of ministers may be competent administrators but it has yet to be seen whether they have the political flair which commands popular support and can hold party and country together. Some observers feel that tensions may soon come to the surface between these young technocrats, who were educated in English-language schools and universities, and a group of older, more experienced men who received a Chinese-language education.

As it contemplates the future, the PAP seems particularly concerned about political apathy among the population and the diffusion of traditional Chinese values such as respect for one's parents and the state, and the willingness to work hard.

As far as the de-politicisation of Singaporean life is concerned, the PAP is largely the victim of its own success. The party has been so efficient in crushing the opposition and raising levels of prosperity that few people feel there are any political causes left worth fighting for.

In the last three elections the PAP has won every seat in Parliament. Nevertheless, it fights each campaign with a vigour which would make you think its survival was at stake and, once elected, MPs are expected to work hard at cultivating their constituencies.

Additional links with the electorate are provided by People's Associations. These operate in every housing estate under the leadership of PAP members and enable the party both to get its message across to the voters and to keep in touch with what the latter are thinking.

Any activity which is judged prejudicial to the stability of the country is rigorously suppressed. In a report published earlier this year on a mission it sent to Singapore in 1978, Amnesty International accused the Government of violating the following human rights: freedom from torture and cruel and inhuman treatment; freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention; equality before the law; the right to a fair and public trial; freedom of conscience.

The report criticized in particular the use made of the Internal Security Act which, it said, gave the authorities "almost unlimited powers of arbitrary arrest and preventive detention", and had been "consolidated by the post-independence Government of Lee Kuan Yew into a means to stifle political dissent in the republic". It drew attention to three men—Dr Lim Hock Siew, Ho Piao and Lee Tse Tong—who have been in detention without trial for 17 years and "are now among the longest-term political prisoners in the world".

The opposition parties in Singapore accuse the Government variously of establishing a state where human values are lacking and crea-

tive thinking is stifled, of playing on past success to justify totalitarian actions, and of being a semi-military dictatorship in the service of multinational corporations. However, it seems very unlikely that they will be the instruments of a change for the better, at least in the immediate future. They give the impression of running demagogic, part-time operations, lacking members and funds.

Some of the Opposition's strictures on the Government strike a sympathetic chord with PAP leaders. Mr Lim

Kim San, Minister of the Environment, said he would like to see more open debate in Singapore and thought that the Government could afford to be more lenient towards its opponents.

Dr Toh, who is Minister of Health as well as PAP chairman, said an opposition in Parliament would help to keep the Government on its toes. He mentioned the recent raising of car registration fees from \$15 to \$1,000 (£200) as an instance in which it would have been better to have had a debate

between rival parties in Parliament rather than just the issuing of an administrative order. If more people were not brought into the decision-making process there was a danger of creating resentment, which could lead to extremism, he said.

If the PAP's political dominance has blunted Singaporeans' appetite for politics, its economic and social policies have led to a weakening of traditional values. Imports of Western technology and a tourist traffic which will soon exceed the population in

numbers have brought with them Western attitudes to life. In particular, the importance of the individual as opposed to the group. At the same time the Government's huge programme of rehousing has broken up old communities and the spirit which held them together.

The Singapore Government must feel, however, that these internal contradictions are insignificant values. Imports of Western technology and a tourist traffic which will soon exceed the population in

continued on page 19

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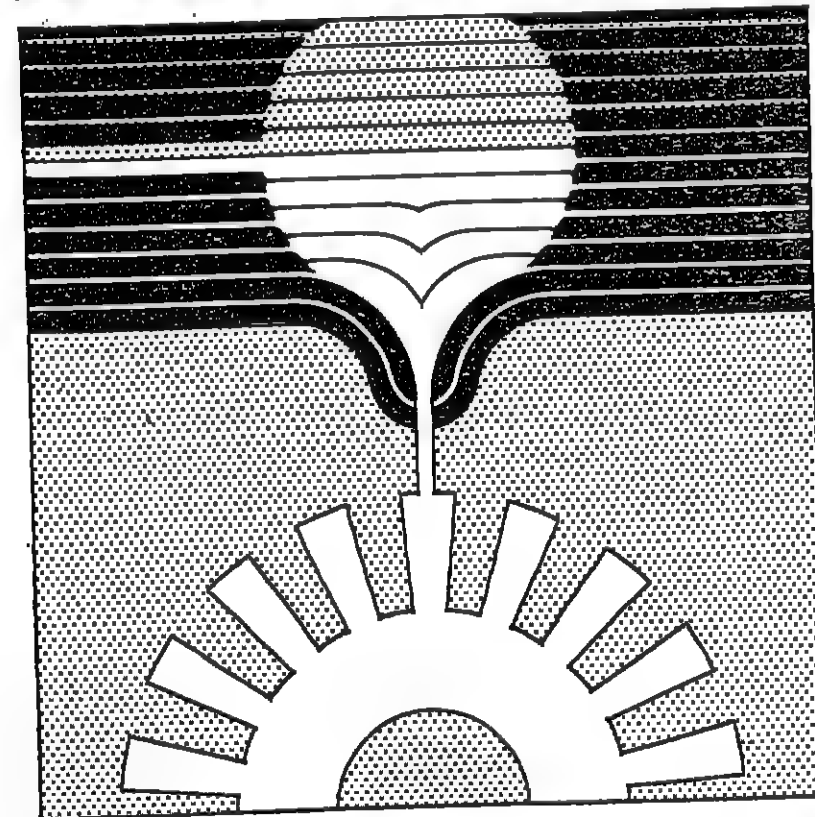
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SINGAPORE

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A successful mix of open and closed economy

The Singapore economy has been growing in the last three years faster than that of the industrial countries, with the 1979 figure provisionally estimated at 9.3 per cent.

In terms of prices Singapore has also done well, with the gross domestic product deflator ranging between 2 and 4 per cent. For a decade now, the Singapore economy has been following a policy of being open to the rest of the world—in particular, the industrialized countries—at the same time being closed in the sense of adopting internal economic policies which differ from those of the rest of the world.

Economic activity has been particularly intense in the three sectors which are able to transmit external influences—transport and communications, manufacturing, and trade. These three sectors accounted for four fifths of the growth rate achieved, which has so far been above the official target of 6 to 8 per cent. In 1979 Singapore did even better than South Korea and Taiwan, though not as well as Hongkong.

Other places in the world as open as Singapore are not as green as Singapore, but it is the combination of different factors which makes the city doubly attractive. Singapore is as clean and green as a suburb but has all the facilities of a city three times its size. It has a small population—little short of 2,500,000—and yet it can draw on the effort and products of the 200 million people making

up the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), of which it is a keen member.

It is run by a government which is in the twenty-first year of fulfilling the socialist platform on which it came into power but, today, even the companies owned by the Government are as capitalistic as those attracted to Singapore by its total absence of economic nationalism.

The Singapore success story (if 15 years is sufficient for success to be more than just a passing phase) points to the existence of good management as critical resource in inflationary and low productivity periods as natural resources such as oil. Good management means being able to learn from the mistakes of some and benefit from the actions of others.

As an example of the former, Singapore has avoided budget deficits, preferring instead to map the savings of the people, which have been administratively set at a higher level every year by the Central Provident Fund mechanism. Instead of official borrowing from abroad, the Government prefers the banks and multinational corporations to lend or invest their money in Singapore because of the attractive conditions it provides. For example, Singapore has stayed clear of big power politics despite its strategic position, making it clear, however, that it is definitely in the non-com-

munist camp. Instability or nationalistic policies in neighbouring countries are capitalised upon by Singapore in its open-door policy.

In a world of many countries in which the divergent policies of a small country are of little scope to manoeuvre, Singapore gets richer, however, there is less room to make mistakes. In 1979 Singapore had a per capita income of about S\$3,500, which would have put it in the league of developed countries were it not that income attributable to resident expatriates foreign investment and technology is so large as to make "indigenous" income only three quarters of the gross national product.

In any other small rich country, the tendency would be to become a dependency of one large country, if only to be assured of natural resources and defence in any emergency. However, Singapore's political independence is as strongly guarded as in 1965 when it broke away from Malaysia in order to preserve its style of nationhood.

As an economic unit, Singapore belongs to that small group of world nations committed to free trade and the maximum movement of capital. However, as a political unit, Singapore has to be isolationist in the way she handles education and language issues.

All children must have a reasonable command of a

second language to go into tertiary education but the culture to support a second language has little fresh air in the commercial environment of Singapore. Mandarin, the second language of the Chinese who make up three quarters of the population, is actually a third language after the southern Chinese dialects, which are still used extensively. All education is state-controlled and financed but, as people's incomes and aspirations grow, the state system proves too rigid and too standardized in form for many personal preferences.

As a consequence, Singapore is facing a major economic constraint in non-economic areas such as education and language. This is because its future economic growth depends on sufficient skilled manpower coming into the job market during the next decade. Even if every child is carefully trained to be of use to society, there just may not be enough hands to work the complex economy covering electronics, shipbuilding, transport, trade, banking, textiles and hotels.

To encourage the retaining of labour and the investment of capital to complement labour—rather than for labour to fit the needs of capital as has happened in the past—the Government has begun a systematic increase in wages, so that the burden of adjustment falls on the employer. Notice has been given that in the next two to three years the National Wages

Council guideline of the order of 10 per cent increase was the case in average workman.

In line with the cation system, given more, no any other time 25 years.

However, the people is not as is for reclaims public utilities, pore is enter; when growth longer to emerge when economic are not good, world.

It is unlikely extensive change education and to bear fruit in the years. What has the economy in the are favourable forces, the fact from past years astute a main before. Only in the neighbourhood economic for elsewhere in conditions could pessimistic and S feeling more and effect of rising. On balance, now are signs that the success story will for some time.

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No place for textiles in the 1980s

Start of a revolution—in high technology

Six years after the recession, at the beginning of a new decade, Singapore's much-heralded industrialization programme has taken a new turn.

A textile manufacturer or one of his kind who were responsible for Singapore's rapid growth in the 1960s would have no place in Singapore today. Instead, he would be redirected to another developing country and the same would apply to any labour-intensive, low-skilled industry seeking to set up shop in Singapore.

Since last July, when the National Wages Council, a tripartite body comprising employers' representatives, trade unions and government, raised wages by 20 per cent, Singapore has ushered in a new capital-intensive, higher technology era, now popularly referred to as its second industrial revolution.

Low value-added industries either have to upgrade to higher value-added products through mechanization or else be priced out of the market by higher labour costs.

In recommending the highest wage increase since 1973, the NWC said it was proposing a high wage policy in order to restructure the economy to a higher technological level through higher productivity and better wages.

The Economic Development Board, the Government's main agency in attracting foreign investments, already has 11 main industries planned for the 1980s, including special chemicals and pharmaceuticals, electronic instrumentation, optical instruments, precision engineering, medical and surgical apparatus. While most of the list covers industries which have already begun operations in Singapore, the most exciting new development is in computers, computer peripheral equipment and software development.

This sector is expected to blossom into an export-oriented industry generating an annual revenue of \$200m within a decade. A new venture for technology transfer is being worked out and a training institute, the Singapore Japan Institute of Information Technology, will be set up by next year if things go as planned.

In all, the new industry cost some 20,000 highly skilled staff being trained, while incentive schemes run from accelerated depreciation for hardware and generous tax concessions for export of computer software packages.

The way ahead for Singapore now looks as challenging as when it first took the path of industrialization in the 1960s. Little did it realize then that it would achieve the second highest rate of living in Asia after Japan.

The first industrial revolution began in the 1960s when, faced with difficulties of economic growth and high unemployment and its entrapment in a precarious position, Singapore embarked on a programme of labour-intensive industries. Producing first for the home market and later for world markets, its export-oriented strategy found



A welder at work in a factory where household refrigerators are made.

ample room to grow unfettered by trade restrictions.

Growth was supported by an influx of foreign investors and multi-nationals attracted by cheap labour and the excellent public services that Singapore provided.

The export strategy proved vulnerable when developed countries, hit by negative growth rates after the oil crisis in 1973, began to introduce increasingly protectionist policies, affecting textiles, clothing, footwear, and electronics, the industries that had sustained Singapore's growth up to the early 1970s.

Singapore managed to survive the crisis because of its diversified base and achieved modest growth afterwards. However, problems arose because a low wage policy was followed to prevent a repeat of high unemployment in the wake of slower economic growth. As Singapore already had full employment, this only helped lower value-added industries to continue expanding with more labour rather than machines. It also created a labour shortage that had to be eased by admitting more foreign workers.

In 1979, there were already more than 100,000 guest workers, mostly from Malaysia and working in the

construction industry.

"Singapore is caught in a bind of low wages, low productivity and low skills which, if continued to the end of the decade, would see 500,000 migrant workers—causing enormous political and social problems," Mr. Devan Nair, president of the National Trades Union Congress, said.

Further, he pointed out that countries like China, with its modernization programme and cheap labour, would in five to six years be able to produce the same kinds of goods which Singapore produces, and at much lower costs.

So what do we do to move out from the overcrowded, over-competitive third league and into the second division of middle technology nations?

Critics of the wages increases said that manufacturers would avoid Singapore. An estimated 30,000 workers would be made redundant, while 50,000 jobs would have been created if wages had not gone up.

However, together with the wage increases, several new schemes were introduced to help both worker and businessman to adjust to the new order. These include retraining schemes and special allowances. The Economic Expansion Incentives Act, which was aimed at promoting labour-intensive industries, had already been amended twice in 1970 and

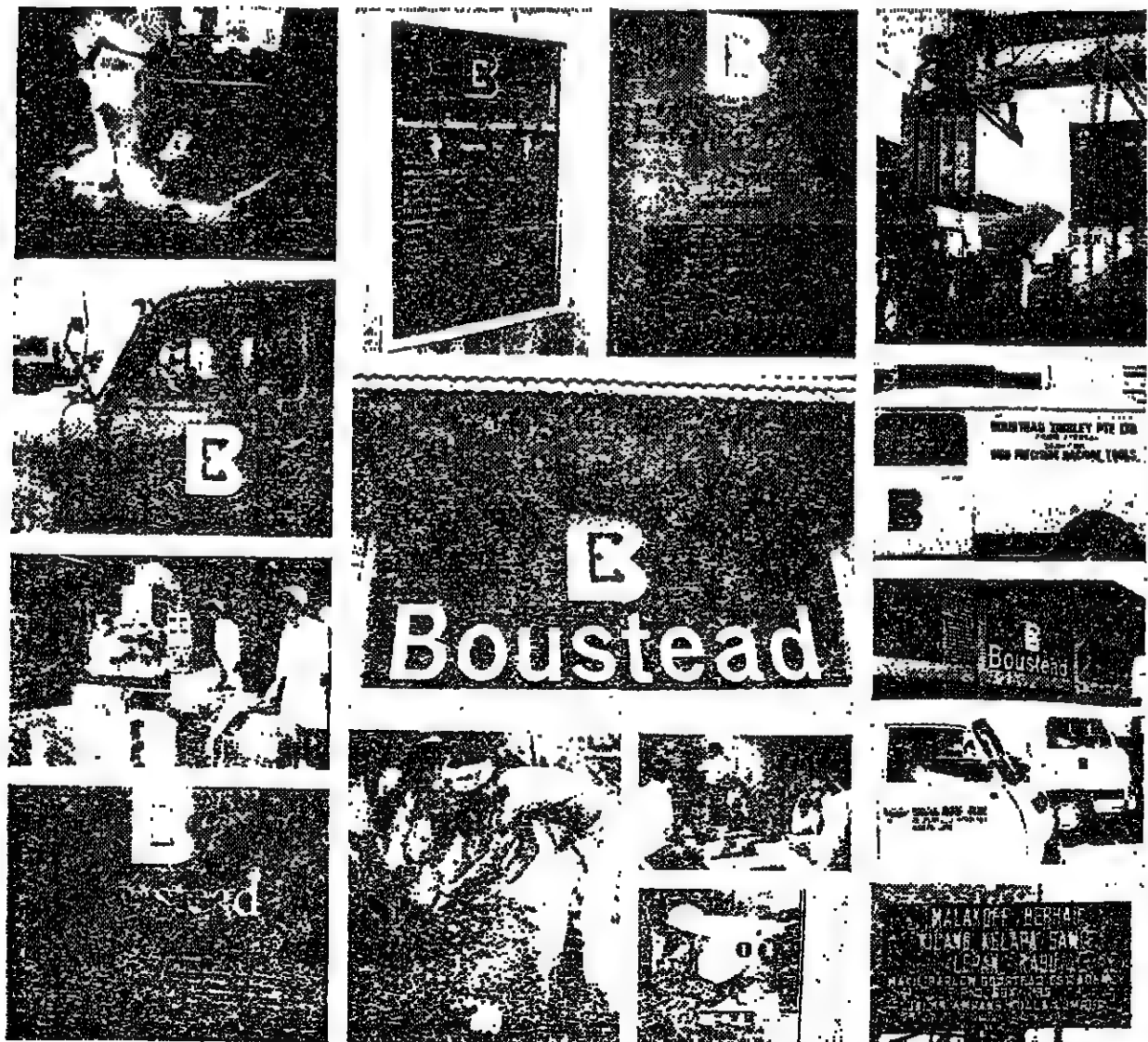
1975 in favour of higher value-added industries.

In 1979 Singapore's gross domestic product in real terms grew at 9.3 per cent, an increase on the 8.6 per cent achieved the previous year. It was the republic's highest growth rate since the 1974 recession and the best performance in Asia with the exception of Hongkong, which had a growth rate of 12 per cent. Hongkong's performance, however, was achieved at an inflation rate of 11 per cent while Singapore's was kept to a low 4 per cent.

The largest boost came from the manufacturing sector, which grew by 14 per cent, displacing the transport and communications sector as the prime mover of the economy. The shift in the industrial structure was shown to be largely biased towards a higher value-added base, with the main growth coming from electronics, metal engineering, oil rig construction and ship repairing.

Contributions from high value-added industries grew from about \$700m in 1970 to \$2,300m in 1979, while low value-added industries rose only from \$400m to \$800m over the same period.

The future appears bright for Singapore, which has several new projects on the way that are of greater magnitude than anything in the past. There is the \$2,000m Sumitomo petrochemical



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Anthony Teo
Business Times
Singapore

SINGAPORE

Customers get more advanced services

New dimensions for finance centre

More than 100 banks, including the first ASEAN (Association of South-east Asian Nations) government bank, have indicated that they will consider revising certain regulations that may obstruct the banking and insurance industries' future growth.

Surveys are being conducted into how Singapore should go about developing and internationalizing its capital markets. Carried out in conjunction with the Securities Industry Council, the interest is undoubtedly centred on how best to promote the listing and trading of stocks and bonds of international companies and, in this connection, the further development of the Asian dollar bond market.

Flagging for the most part of last year, in line with the lull in international bond markets, the Asian dollar bond sector is somewhat more active than the rest of the market. Many of the placements have been made outside Singapore and, despite the freeing of exchange controls in 1978, several tax and building up in overseas financial insurance is also expected to be a similar direction.

Warnings were given this year that the insurance companies should adopt a more approach to their face the consequences of having suffered from expert Hongkongers which the Authority of Insurance (MAS) is pre-admitting into the Singapore's central bank, has indicated that it will consider revising certain regulations that may obstruct the banking and insurance industries' future growth.

Overall, offshore business in the republic is progressing on an excellent note. The total size of the Asian dollar market (in terms of gross assets and liabilities) grew by 41 per cent to a record S\$38,000m at the end of December last year, compared with an annual growth of 29 per cent and 21 per cent in 1978 and 1977 respectively.

Comparable data for the earlier part of last year showed that Singapore steadily overtook Hong Kong as the leading Asian regional centre, second only to Japan. Singapore accounted for about S\$30,000m of the total super-dollar offshore business, compared with an approximate S\$20,000m for Hong Kong and almost S\$40,000m for Japan.

The issue and trading of United States dollar certificates of deposits, notably of the floating rate kind, was very active last year. Thirty-one floating rate CDs worth S\$578m were made as against 19 issues (S\$335m) in 1978.

But because of widespread uncertainty in the interest rate, fixed rate CDs traded on a slightly less brisk note. By the end of last year, there were S\$923m of these CDs outstanding in the market.

Last year, too, saw the debut of the five-year floating rate CD, a debut that was prompted largely by the Japanese Finance Ministry's relaxation of its ruling on long-term funding by Japanese banks. A leading European name, the European-Asian Bank, issued the first such CD, followed by a rush of Japanese banks between August and November.

Market observers, however, are now calling for more leading non-Japanese borrowers in the CD market to bring it more in line with Singapore's multi-racial makeup. There is also a need to increase foreign awareness that the Singapore Interbank offered rate (Sibor) is as good as the London Interbank offered rate (Libor).

Foreign banks, in the meantime, have been particularly active in rejuvenating Singapore as a regional centre for loan syndications. Reputed leaders such as the Bank of Montreal, Toronto Dominion Bank, Dresdner (South-east Asia), Morgan Trust Company, Manufacturers Hanover Trust and First Chicago Asia Merchant Bank, have been stepping up their activity considerably in regional syndications, possibly reflecting the coming on stream of more economic projects in the area. The major country borrowers in the market include the Philippines, Central Bank, the Korea Exchange Bank, San Miguel Corporation and the Kingdom of Thailand.

Foreign interest in being represented in Singapore continued to heighten, with another eight offshore banks joining the scene last year. The newcomers, mainly from Europe, the United States and Australia, are all large and well-established institutions, reflecting the MAS's intention of issuing licences selectively and only to those which can make a positive contribution to Singapore's development as a money centre.

At the same time, a new short-term instrument, the Asian commercial paper, was introduced last November. Similar to the United States commercial paper, it is a short-term promissory note issued by a non-bank company to raise working capital.

Another instrument, the ASEAN bankers' acceptance, is now near implementation, subject to official approval by the Association of South-east Asian Nations. Its main difference from the ordinary bankers' acceptance is that it covers only ASEAN importers coming from ASEAN and will enjoy a leader of last resort facility from the region's monetary authorities.

The successful launching of the ASEAN bankers' acceptance will be an important milestone in the development of ASEAN regional cooperation. Singapore will benefit, therefore, not only as an important centre for such a paper, but will also enhance its role as a financial key to ASEAN's development.

Lee Yoke Meng
Business Times, Singapore

Economy plans rely on foreign investment

Promoted as a base for trade with China

The Singaporean worker is keen to learn and picks up new skills quickly. He is industrious and generally well-behaved. On the other hand he shows a certain inertia to change, is reluctant to travel long distances to work and to do overtime, does not cooperate with other workers, lacks initiative, is impatient, does not take criticism kindly, lacks a sense of responsibility and changes his job frequently.

This portrait of labour in Singapore was drawn up last year for Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, by the Economic Development Board (EDB) on the basis of comments made by multinational corporations.

The board, whose job is to encourage foreign investment in the republic, stated defensively at the top of its submission to Mr Lee that despite these weaknesses in local manpower, overseas commitments to the Singaporean economy were continuing to expand. Last year foreign companies undertook to make S\$822m (S\$64m) worth of investment in manufacturing, up

534m on the previous year's level.

As of mid-1979, British investment stood at S\$910m (£182m), behind that of the United States, Holland and Japan. About 70 per cent of the British total was in the petroleum industry—both Shell and BP have refineries in Singapore. The equivalent figures for Holland and the United States are about 90 and 50 per cent respectively.

Other British investors include Bechtel, which makes semi-synthetic Penicillin for sale in Japan, British Oxygen, Burmah Oil, Chloride, Dunlop, GEC, ICI, which manufactures paints and allied products, Inchcape, Metal Box, Reynolds Parson's (heavy voltage switchgear), Unilever, United Scientific Holdings (optical and electronic instruments for the military), and Vosper (shipbuilding and repair).

Singapore will rely heavily on foreign investment in its efforts to restructure its economy. However, a company whose processes are labour intensive and whose products have a low added-value and are vulnerable to protectionism, will not be welcome.

In January the EDB identified the industries it is most anxious to promote. They are: automotive components, machine tools and machinery, medical and surgical apparatus and instruments, special chemicals and pharmaceuticals, computers, computer peripheral equipment and software, electronic instrumentation, optical instruments and equipment, including photocopying machines, precision engineering products, advanced electronic components, including water fabrication, hydraulic and pneumatic control systems, aircraft-related products and oilfield equipment.

As well as emphasizing Singapore's additional role as a supplier of other South-East Asian countries, the EDB is suggesting that it could be a good springboard for a company wishing to do business with China. Asked how it would compare with Hong Kong in this respect, a board official said the roles of the two cities were complementary. Hong Kong's strength was in consumer goods, Singapore's in capital goods such as oilfield equipment and agricultural machinery. The republic also had ample facilities for storage and maintenance operations.

Although the official expressed disappointment at the slow growth of British investment in Singapore it appears to be keeping up with that of other countries. Indeed, the arrival of newcomers to the island and expansion of facilities by companies already established there are impressive when compared with British activity in other parts of Asia.

Among the newcomers are Huntron International, which is manufacturing 10-ton and five-and-a-half-ton trailer axles; Crompton Instruments, a subsidiary of Hawker Siddeley, which makes electrical measuring instruments; and Bridge-

port Machines, which produces milling machines.

Dynacast, a subsidiary of Coats Patons, the sewing thread makers, manufactures precision zinc diecast and plastic-moulded industrial components in Singapore. Mr Simon Kenyon, the managing director, said the company weighed up various locations in Asia.

Japan is by far the biggest market for Dynacast but it was felt that the commitment required to set up a manufacturing process there was too great. In Taiwan, not enough people spoke English and in Malaysia the availability of skilled labour was low. Hong Kong had a good machine tool industry and was already an important customer of the company. However, it did not have as many English speakers as Singapore and did not offer tax holidays. Another factor in Singapore's favour was the outstanding efficiency of the EDB.

The total capital employed by Dynacast will rise later this year to S\$4m (£800,000), of which a quarter is share capital and the rest has been borrowed locally. The factory sells only 3 per cent of its products in Singapore and Mr Kenyon thinks this figure is unlikely to rise above 15 per cent. Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong are important markets.

Mr Kenyon is hoping for sales of S\$3.5m (£700,000) this year, rising to between S\$4m and S\$5m in 1981. The company has a pioneer status which allows it a tax holiday for five years and possibly further concessions after that.

The main problems faced by Dynacast in Singapore are the remoteness of the factory from the homes of the employees and the reluctance of Singaporeans to travel far to work; the tendency to change jobs rapidly; and lack of industrial experience.

For Lesney International, the toy makers, the Singapore factory was the first new manufacturing unit to be opened outside Britain. Singapore was chosen because of its location, its ready supply of money, its political stability and its training in vocational skills. Opened just over a year ago, the local company, Lesney Industries, is already expanding its operations. Initial capital of S\$1.9m and a further sum of S\$2.4m were both raised locally. Like Dynacast, Lesney has been granted a five-year tax holiday.

About 92 per cent of Lesney's output, which comprises bath toys and plastic injection moulds for other toy manufacturers, are exported. The main markets in 1979 were the United States and Australia, but this year Mr Dick Flewitt, the managing director, expects Europe to account for 50 per cent of sales worth between S\$9.5m and S\$10m (£2m). Mr Flewitt said that production costs were at least 40 per cent cheaper than in Europe.

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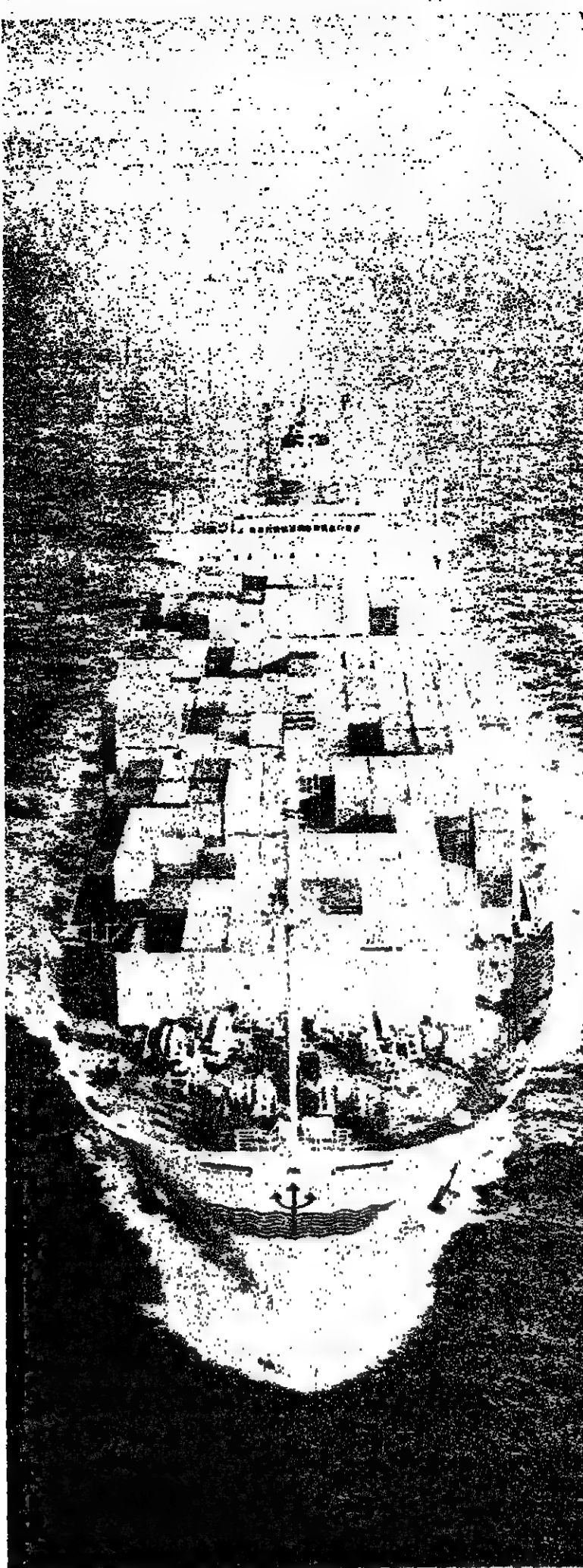
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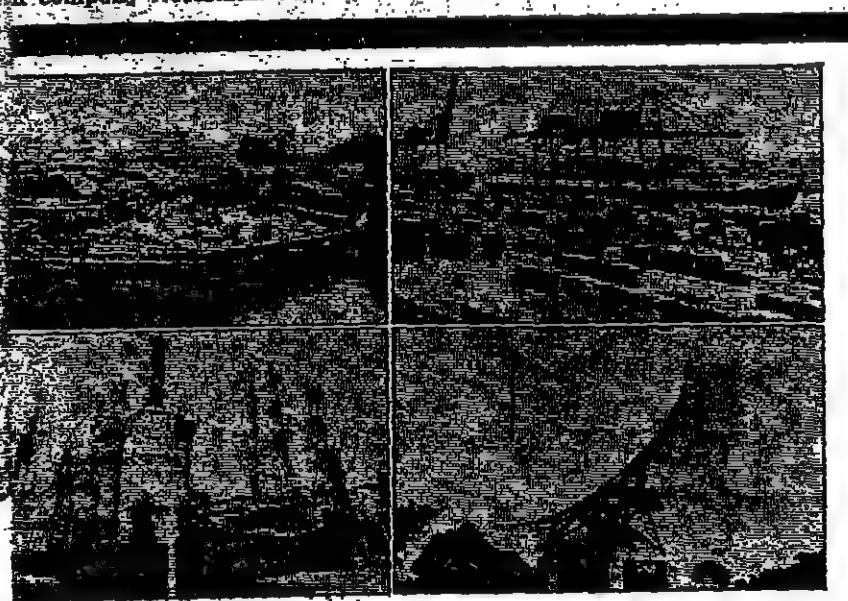
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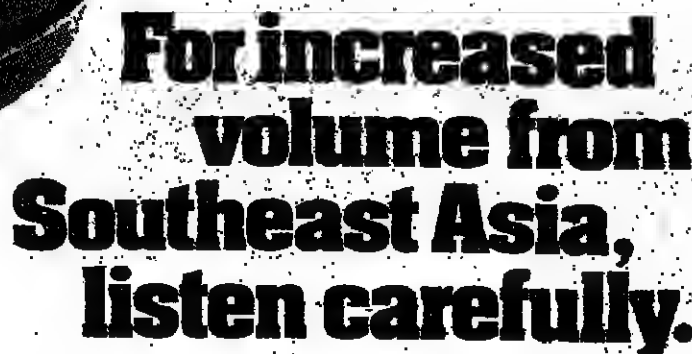


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**Simon
Plus**

THE ARTS

alternative leading roles, and each their climax when they meet. Maugham's cocktail party scene is invaded by a Biblical multitude recalling her to the task of portraying Mary Magdalene.

At such moments, the show really gets into its stride, thanks partly to the deft synchronisation of mood lighting and Cy Coleman's music, and partly to Julia McKinnzie's stunning performance as the stat.

From her flashback first appearance, as a mousetrap realist pinning eclipsing the haughty production candidate with a ringing tone poem, the evening's glorified walk-over for Miss McKinnzie, Keith Michell, parting her as she the defeated tyrant who first discovered her and is now desperate to get her back, plays Jaiffie, the master of disguise, with a wooden disfigure-ising bloom that hardly varies whether he is appearing as a chink, a rejected lover, a suicide victim, or a Baptist in a curious conical hat. However, Mr Michell's voice has come on since I last heard it, and shows to advantage in the long-limbed production number which sets the action of his chief musical support.

Peter Coo's production also puts its best in numbers like "Six Limbs": a prolonged collective scutt from forming a loose plume and involving frantic windrows through a compartment window, whose darkling devotion towards the assailants' wind up on a heap on the floor. This number also gives deserved prominence to Mark Winters, as Miss McKinnzie's temerarious lover, whose darkling devotion is carried to the length of a scurrying canine impersonation.

Otherwise the show is split down the middle between the serious and the roared-festive. The latter is in action the strain becomes completely expurgated. When Mr Waggoner takes over, the plot is thrust aside in favour of the spectacle of Ann Beach (the author's ideal) as a devoted mother, who despite her catcher, and of pratty and unconvincing speeding through the night. It is a fitfully exhilarating show, and certainly the best thing to have been seen lately at this address.

A multiplication of villainy does culminate in a spectacular fire set by Bloodgood to destroy the evidence of his crime.

Hearts were bound to be rendered by Dion Boscicault's *The Streets of London*, and tidied up. Though Bloodgood's evident inhumanity has kept him from the best class of acting, this money is about to purchase an entry into respectability by his daughter's marriage. The inconvenient detail of the bridegroom's love for the daughter of the dead crook is nothing to quibble his need for a cash.

Miss Cleland's production may inspire more laughter than tears in our hardened hearts, although the sufferings of the poor on stage, buffeted by artificial snow-mas, are as cheerful sympathy from spectators in the icy auditorium. The actors, however, are fully aware of the laughter their misfortunes produce, and they play with commendable directness.

William Squire as Bloodgood has the sufficiency of a very evil and a variety of protomime postures perfectly suited to his role, his wicked daughter—you can spot her wickedness by her abundant hair—quite a nice touch. In Jane Wyndham's performance, the characterizations from Elinor Gray and Louisa Riv are entirely good people are equally well judged, but the ambivalence of Bader is the character to watch, charmingly contradictory.

Michael Carter's performance is reprinted from yesterday.

... chat, some of it quite funny ("I bought him a hot dog and a finger-nail in it"), but quite shapeless and under-characterized. But before you turn your eye feasts on Paul Owen's superb art-deco setting.

A better introduction to the work of Jon Jory, ATL's producing director, was Adele Edging Shank's *Sunset Sunrise*, on which the design staff agreed to town with a cinematic Californian house exterior complete with a vintage Pontiac, motor-operated bathing tub and (the author's masterpiece) a television inter-com system which communicates with everything except plastic.) communicates with the family and guests who throng the mechanised playground.

Set and play alike might have been by David Hockney. West Coast superficiality is put on trial through an interplay of surfaces, open relationships, a lurid betrayal, a flash of murderous hostility, incessant drink. There are moments, as where an actual society invades this languid, sooty to fix the car, when Chekhov hovers over the scene; but even then there is hardly a trace of moral judgement, and Miss Shank leaves her characters to run their own hell like a self-servicing

Irving Wardle

As the rhythm of industrial sound that echoes through the American jazz tradition, it seems perverse that when Broadway steps around to a railroad musical it should be scored to evoke all the Vienna with a few gypsy strings for exotic colouring.

It does not take a point, as On a Tuesday night, is hardly a twentieth-century musical anyway. True, Truie Hecht and MacArthur adaptation takes place on board the famed Chicago-New York express, and is set among quaint scenes of mobile chromium-vanilla ice-cream excursions and the suburban front door sunburst without from an art deco design would be completed and even before Robin Wagner's glittering wonder is undraped the orchestra is letting out its own puffs of smoke. But once the journey is under way, the scenic splendours best be happening in adjoining hotel bedrooms.

Travel supplies no distractions from the obsession with show business, and the journey is merely a pretext for a series of plot-up action manager to back plans for a come-back before he meets his creditors at the ticket barrier.

This means finding a way to find the money, all of which fall into his hands with conspicuous ease, and then fall out again when the backer is unmasked as an escaped lunatic.

For the first contact came from the signature of Peter Rabbit Entertainment along the way consists mainly of the variousous off-stage roles which the money-scoos Oscar Jaffee adopts to protect his back.

To this robust, hard-bodied plot, Betty Comden and Adolph Green have added a quartet of singing porters, and a chorus who double as fellow passengers and as the crowds who swell their numbers.

It is a pity that the show derives from the female star's agonies of indecision over two

Ned Chaillet

Melodrama is alive and at least well enough to walk, if not quite ready to dance, at Stratford-on-Avon. Diane Cilento, whose third production as a director it is, does not forget that even walking is something elaborate and dignified. She displays no arrogance, goodness, evil and penniless nobility through the Victorian gaslights. Extravagant acting, where it can be encouraged, is the order of the day, and extravagant emotion, though it nowadays leans to ward hilarity, is what it is about.

Twenty years before the bulk of the action a City banker had taken £100,000 worth of gold from a dying sea captain and rolled his corpse into Threadneedle Street. The banker's squalling baby daughter was waiting outside, and Badger, a corrupt clerk who witnessed the crime, stood by to be bribed and sent into exile.

With the expected exception of the dead captain, the rest have survived to enjoy corruption, wealth or to face squallor, with the banker, Bloodgood, thriving on the captain's gold and the poor seaman's wife and daughter, the latter a gentle beggar. As Bloodgood's wealth increases, and Badger returns to take a further helping, there is

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

"Eat it or molest it?" . . . Anne Pitoniak and

High among the attractions, that lured the international Press to Kentucky for the Festival, was the Actors' Theatre of Louisville—a little review called *The America Project*. Commissioned by the theatre, this consisted of 10 sketches by American writers, by groups of culturally-OK non-Americans, and it promised one civilized outpost in a territory that might otherwise be populated by the merchants who were growing under their armpits.

As it happens, this show did leave me with the strongest single image I received from any of the festival's nine productions. The moment occurred in a wordless sketch by Asbol Fagerud about a Bowers Fugaver who is inspired to commit a heinous and an old car-seat into a drum kit, when—after spasmodic by a passing-truck. The ragged Diark Toporzysek wipes himself clean with fastidious care and then throws the used tissue into the audience. We flinched and disgust. We knew what the tissue was in Gish. The spotless, and also that it whole nature of chemical magic was compressed into one gesture.

With that honourable exception and the contributions of Gordon Dryland and Keith Dewhurst, the rest of the evening made one flinch for other reasons. It consisted of a third-rate anti-Americanism from which you can think of dollar-worship to the divorce rate, delivered with impeccable long-range contempt by such luminaries as Brian Clark, Alexander Suen, Stewart Parker and Willie Sorensen. When we think of these things of the anti-American

had planned in from around the globe at Kentucky's expense to supervise the rehearsal of their own show, it is hard to imagine gasping equally at their artistic gall and at the limitless humility of a company who would accept such work and act out the previous libels on their homeland.

If ever there was a place to give the lie to the ugly American myth, it is the Actors' Theatre of Louisville—an outpost of the main theatre, 15 years of the kind of care, which America usually reserves for orchestras, and which now combines the role of a community house with a dedication to new writing.

Walking into the main theatre, a huge velvet-covered aircraft propeller slowly revolving under the ornate Greek Revival dome, you see concrete evidence of the theatre's 96 per cent capacity subscription list: a long queue waiting for stand-by tickets for an unknown play. And no one can say that the joys that degree of local trust.

Over the year, new plays account for a third of ATL's regular output. It also runs an annual play contest, and the festival (now in its fourth year), selected from an estimated 4,000 unsolicited and commissioned texts from writers in the United States, the office. About half this material is picked up for subsequent production elsewhere, sometimes yielding commercial properties like *The Gin Game* and *Marsha Norman's Getting Out*. But the policy rests on the still unproved faith that new drama can be created like new plays, and that the new shows that made up this year's festival, not one had

been picked with an eye to Broadway.

The only possible exception was Michael Kasson's *Yodan a Little Extra*, a Lustre East Side Jewish comedy enacting the conflict of the generations through "the handover of a kosher butcher shop from its traditional proprietor to a go-ahead newscaster. Confined to the day of old Zalman's retirement, the first act presents an expertly organized duet which fans out to include the crumbling neighbourhood scene, as sensed by Zalman's most loyal customer, with whom he conducts his last battle over the price of a chicken. "Do you want to eat it or molest it?" he inquires, trying to chaperon the bird from her prying fingers.

It is with the help of this old adversary that he conquers his new opponent; and the two of them settle down to a kosher alliance with Zalman's demonstration of how to extract nickels from the pay-phone. If a good short play to which ATL persuaded the author to add a second act wherein sharp purposeful comedy subsides into static mood, it was also the manager's hand, it was also the manager who gave Alvin Duke the subject for his wholly successful dramatized portrait, *Remington*. Remington is Frederick Remington, pre-1914 painter and novelist of the American West, and arch-defender of Frontier values against the effete duplicity of the East. Michael Kevin plays him in the new play at the Dodge City. Alired Karpis is striding around his gun-fetted living room and haranguing his visitors (the audience) on the vanishing

paradise of "wild riders and vacant lands" and the "exquisite class of unwashed men" to whom his life is dedicated.

One irony is that Remington's home is in New York, and the text, mainly drawn from his own writings, is mined with stunningly self-mocking contradictions to lining up pathetically over an Indian atrocity, and then briskly remarking "a mob has got to be shot up a little before it will get into a state of mental calm."

These two plays were presented respectively in ATL's main auditorium and its studio: the first a 637-seater with a thrust stage, the second an acting floor with 160 spectators raked on three sides. Common to both are the resources of a design department that specializes in elaborate scenic building. If ever a theatre lived up to the slogan "the writer leads" it is in ATL's scrupulous translation of its chosen texts into styrofoam and timber. In some of the weaker plays, there is a positively embarrassing imbalance between the facile stage action and the artistically styled craftsmanship that supports it.

In *They're Coming to Make It Brighter*, for instance, Kent Broadhurst makes us through a pre-Christmas working day in the lobby of a New York office building. The staff arrive dripping and cursing from the street; an old shoe-shine man dreams of getting into show business; the boss's secretary gossip about people we never meet; late in the day we learn that Poppa who runs the magazine kiosk has dropped dead. It is all coming and going, with inconsequential

chatter, some of it quite funny ("I bought him a hot dog to cheer him up and he found it finger-nail in it," says a shy girl) and under-characterized. But before it starts your eye casts on Paul Owen's superb art-deco setting.

A better introduction to the work of Jon Jory, ATL's producing director, is *Edling Shank's Sunset Sunrise* on which the design staff again went to town with a cineramic *California house exterior* (containing a bathroom, bathtub and the author's master-stroke) a television inter-com through which a daughter of the house ("I'm allergic to everything except plastic") communicates with the family and guests who bring the mechanized playground.

Set and plot alike might have been by David Hockney. West Coast superficiality is put on trial through an interplay of surfaces: "open relationships", furtive betrayals, flashes of murderous hostility, incontinent drink. There are moments, as where an actual worker invades this languid society to fix the car, when *Edling* hovers over the scene, but then there is hardly a trace of moral judgment, and Miss Shank leaves her characters to run their own hell like a self-service cafeteria. Mr Jory's production, unfolding in stealthily gathering darkness, and animating a company of 14 so as to direct your eye unfailingly from one focal point to the next, reaches a climax in an immense darkened pause, which seems to go on for ever, until broken by a single sob.

Irving Wardle

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FOREIGN REPORT

Haiti boat people are America's newest problem

The rickety old boats ride low in the water and the decks are crowded with sparsely-clad black people. About twice a week, on average, the United States coast guard, patrolling the waters round Southern Florida, will spot one of the boats and go to look.

If it is in distress they will take the people off it and ferry them to land. Thus a fresh batch of America's newest problem immigrants, the Haitian boat people, will arrive in style, helped by an arm of the Government on whose territory, technically speaking, they have no right to settle.

Last year 2,500 of them came, according to the count of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). In recent months the rate has been increasing. In January there were 517 and in October—last year's busiest month—630.

They come, they say, because they cannot find work in Haiti. They speak also of the repression and brutality of the regime of the young President Duvalier. Some claim that they have been brutalized, or their fathers have been arrested and disappeared.

Although legally they have no right to stay in the United States, the INS is under a court order not to send them home, pending the result of an appeal in a case where one issue is whether they can be treated as

political refugees. The Government's position is that they cannot.

"What we're up against from our viewpoint," Mr Richard Gullage, deputy district director of the INS in Miami, said, "is people who are fleeing an economic situation—poverty, low pay and lack of employment—coming here trying to better their way of life."

Along the way their cause has been championed by attorneys, realizing that a claim to political asylum can delay things indefinitely.

We depend on the State Department to advise us if political persecution is going on. From what we have received from the State Department, there is no political persecution in Haiti.

Although now obliged not to send them home, the Federal Government has no direct responsibility for maintaining the refugees while they are here. That burden falls on churches and volunteer groups in Miami.

The Friendship Baptist church is a large, quite modern building in a black residential area in north-western Miami. There the Rev James Jenkins, a black minister, runs a staging post for the refugees after they have been screened by immigration officers and before they can be settled with already overcrowded families.

A boatload of 57 had arrived two days before my visit. In a low room, lit harshly with neon, they sat on benches eating a dinner of rice, meat and carrots. They were mostly men and in their early twenties.

A few mattresses were stacked against a wall, because after dinner this would be converted into a bedroom. There were no blankets, but the Haitians would keep warm at night by covering themselves with old clothes strewn from a pile in the corner.

They had already picked from the pile some clothes to wear in what was, for Miami, an unusually cool day. They did not worry about styles so long as they fit: one tall, slim man was in a snug women's coat with a fetching fur trim.

They said they had all chipped in to buy their aged escape boat, paying \$35 (about £16) a head. The trip from Haiti had taken 14 days, and they told how they were unable to load all the provisions they had planned to take with them, because they were forced to make a hasty getaway when spotted by the police.

When I asked why they had come, they all said: "To get work, to get money." Some described how they or their families had been ill-treated by President Duvalier's police and security men.

One young man, Leveque Belassy, had a pale scar on his forehead, which he said had been put there by a policeman after he had bumped into him with his bicycle. Another, Louisel Monlouis, said he had spent eight months in jail after asking the police for news of his father, who had been arrested and disappeared.

The youngest was Alma Leblanc, a boy of 14. He said that his father, a labourer, had been beaten up by the police as he went to collect his wages, and arrested. Since his mother was already dead, he decided to come to America.

There was one former soldier and one who said he had been a member of the Tontons Macoute, the feared security force. He had worked as a taxi driver from Port-au-Prince airport (his reasonable English supported his story) and his job was to report on passengers' conversations.

"I used to arrest a lot of people," he said. "If people complained about conditions I would report back and they would be in trouble. I didn't like it so I left but after I left I was persecuted. That's why I came here."

They know they cannot legally settle in the United States but, because word of such things travels fast, they also know that they will not be sent home. That is why

they do not try hard to evade the immigration authorities when their boats reach the American shore.

Despite that, the "smugglers" who arrange transport for the refugees do a thriving business, at prices ranging from a few hundred dollars to one or two thousand. Officials at the INS believe that some of those who say they have been at sea for between 10 days and a fortnight are not telling the truth.

Some of the boats they come in are so unseaworthy that they couldn't have made the trip, an undercover immigration investigator said.

The males have pressed pants and the females have clean dresses. And, this is a little indelicate, but they don't have the body odour you'd expect.

The theory is that they may have been staying for a while in Bimini, one of the Bahama Islands only 40 miles off the Florida coast, or that their small boat was piggy-backed on a larger one, then dropped only a few miles from the shore. The refugees may have been coached by the smugglers to say they had sailed all the way from Haiti, so put investigators off the scent.

While the INS does not send them home, it does not often let them have work permits either. This means that to survive they have to take jobs illegally and

are at the mercy of exploitative employers in small factories or on farms. Some say that though promised food, lodging and pay, they receive only food and lodging.

That is the chief complaint of the Rev Gerard Jean-Juste, an exile who runs the Haitian refugee centre a few blocks from the Friendship Baptist Church. On the wall of the cramped headquarters, a poster reads: "INS attitude reminds us Duvalier's Tontons Macoute."

He points out that Cuban refugees automatically count as political exiles and are entitled to work permits and social security benefits. The law is that anyone who leaves a communist country may automatically be regarded as a political refugee.

Mr Jean-Juste said: "Here we are in such a condition of oppression and they keep telling us we are not political refugees. Many of those who come had good jobs—teachers, lawyers, farmers. If they didn't have the problems they have they wouldn't risk their lives on flimsy boats to come here."

But when they get here they get disappointed. They throw them in jail. They harass them. We told them that America was beautiful, that this is the land of justice and freedom. The refugee centre organizes frequent demonstrations in Miami



Haitian refugees, packed into a small sailing boat guarded by the Coast Guard in the Florida Keys.

to protest at their treatment. Mr Gullage of the INS said the refugees are detained for only a few days, for health checks and documentation, before being released into the community. But Mr Jean-Juste says there are cases of people being held for several months.

An unknown statistic is how many drown on their way to America. The coast guard keeps a detailed log of those boats it assists in trouble.

February 19: 15 rescued, three dead, four missing near Port Everglades. Same day: 25 accounted for, five missing off Key Biscayne. The list is a long one and does not include those boats which sink without trace. There is no record of departures from Haiti to check against, but given the condition of the boats that are found it would be surprising if a number of others had not sunk.

Mr Jean-Juste believes that the number of people who do not make it may be almost as high as the number who do.

There have been cases of glimmers making refuge from boats and swim many have been lost.

The Haitian boat receive little publicity or internationally. I nowhere near so many the boat people from China and unless their flow suddenly increases are not going to be for the United States.

All the same they irritate, a source of responsibility which the cause have no moral to take upon themselves because they are a de humanitarian people. The Haitians want the still more humanitarian giving them the right and social security benefits. It is probable that before they will do that as a people known that I encourage still more to

Michael Lee

Tarnish comes off relationsh

Saudi doubts ease on US policies

Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski is a man after Crown Prince Fahd's own heart. When President Carter's National Security Adviser visited Riyadh recently, he spoke about the dangers of the Soviet incursion into Afghanistan and asked Saudi Arabia to contribute to an aid package for Pakistan. The Crown Prince, who had been less enthusiastic when faced with a more circumspect Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, immediately agreed, promising to bring in the Gulf states.

For Saudi Arabia the Cold War had never thawed and the past six weeks have been delightfully refreshing. The nagging doubt that the United States would prove a friend in need has been eased. It is good to have the battle lines drawn again.

Although feted in communiqués and leading articles, the special relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States had been looking a little tarnished over the past 18 months. The friendship began when President Roosevelt met King Abdul Aziz on board the American destroyer Murphy in the Great Bitter Lakes in 1943 and reached what many Saudis felt was its apogee in the victory of Congress voting to sell Saudi Arabia the F15 combat aircraft nearly two years ago.

Then things started going wrong. In the autumn of 1978 heavy-handed attempts to persuade Saudi Arabia to approve of the Camp David principles only produced annoyance. Then Washington dropped Taiwan, without informing Saudi Arabia, Taipei's only important remaining supporter. The Shah fell alone, despite Saudi pleas to Washington that only his presence would save Iran from chaos.

A group in the Government, numbering among them Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, began to suggest a little distance might be seemly. The Crown Prince cancelled a visit to the United States, and hints were dropped that the Russians were not as bad as all that.

It was a discreet campaign, satisfying needs not to appear too much on anyone's side in the uncertain Middle East, hedging bets with Iran and the radical Arabs and, as if a mistress fearing her lover indifferent, seeking proof of affection by provoking jealousy.

After several official comments that the Soviet Union can play a constructive role in the search for peace, the Crown Prince came out last month with the least oblique remarks yet. He told the Lebanese magazine *Al-Hawadess* that while Islam and communism were irreconcilable, Saudi Arabia appreciated that Russia cannot be ignored. He was grateful that Soviet press campaigns were not nowadays so vituperative against Saudi Arabia, and pleased with the progress of trade relations. Contacts were under way through a third party which he did not identify.

Unfortunately, the interview was given before the Russians moved into Afghanistan and was published afterwards. A more exact summary of the Saudi view was provided last year by Dr Ghazi Alqasbi, the Minister of Industry and Electricity. He told a meeting of American businessmen: "Your industrial way of life for the coming decades will continue without Arab oil. The independence of the Arab coun-

tries in the face of communism cannot be attained without your aid and resolve. No independence could be more co-

Saudi Arabia has no state that could be described as communist, the Soviet incursion having been by Stalin in 1938 after, ing to St John Phil Arabs had proved uneasy by "the Marxian creed. Soviet subjects are all the Pilgrimage, the door Soviet Central Asians 40 years always being accom-

There is a commu several thousand Chinese Saudi citizens, living summer capital of Tai trekked as refugees from the Muslim provi China.

Trade exchanges are able, although Saudi men occasionally visit on papers from the Embassy in London. I made taxis were once c in Riyadh, but they have replaced by Japanese on For all the hinting, D said it remains the Sau look. Communism is contrary to religion, and are no two ways about it as if, bred in the most e persuasion of an uncomi ing religion, Saudis can the conflict in any other than those of good and t

They are realists, t and recognize that comp is necessary for safety. Bi was before Afghanistan. Arabia has now taken a stand. It was the first e to announce a boycott Moscow Olympics this an and must take much credit for the firmness declaration issued by Islamabad meeting of foreign ministers. Muslim tries, most of them rec of Saudi aid, have been that repayment is now ex in support for the Saudi The threat is felt to b close.

Public statements folle Gulf position of rejecit American intervention, officials will admit to p relief at every indicatio American intentions of force to protect friend uncertainty has been dissp While essentially condit even unadventurous, Arabia's foreign policy has consistent in its opposit radicalism. Relations with wan and South Korea fulsomely treated as the ct of friendships; and, con torts elicit, result in countries being for pol reasons favoured in the of Government contracts.

Moderation in oil pricing production policies is fra admitted to be in the fr of the West. Duri Camp D Saudi Arabia had always l willing to work with the U States in contain radicalis the Arab world and comm outside.

It is not unreasonable to pect a more forthright policy from the Saudis. Are Private American assum that President Carter's reat ion will allow him to f Israel to give in to Palestu demands have come a long, towards brightening rel Saudi Arabia is placed with chine on the special relat ship.

A Correspondent

Glenfiddich in Gaelic means Valley of the Deer.

8 YEAR OLD ONLY HIGHLAND MALT WHISKY

Glenfiddich Pure Malt Scotch Whisky

70° Proof

Produced by the fourth generation of an Independent Family Company

A Short Story.

Next time you pour a Glenfiddich, read the label. You will understand why the pale, amber liquid in your glass has such a subtle yet distinctive taste.

Pure malt. Over 8 years old. Produced by the fourth generation of an Independent Family Company. Bottled at the Distillery.

A few short words. But they make the difference between a simple scotch and the slow, sensational experience of one of the finest whiskies the Highlands have to offer.

Glenfiddich
Our label says it all.



Inflation in EEC lower last month

Consumer prices in the European Community rose 1.4 per cent in February from the previous month and 13.9 per cent from February 1979, the EEC statistical agency Eurostat reported. The community inflation rate slackened from January's record monthly increase of 2.2 per cent.

The provisional consumer price index gained 2 points from January and 19.3 points from February 1979. Inflation was highest in Italy at 1.7 per cent, the United Kingdom at 1.4 per cent and Germany at 1.1 per cent—the steepest rise for that country since November 1973.

Prices rose 1 per cent in Holland and Denmark and 0.8 per cent in Belgium and Luxembourg.

Car plant reopens

Volkswagen is to resume the assembly of cars at its Salzgitter plant where production was halted in 1975. The West German motor company will spend DM200m preparing the plant for the restart in the spring of 1982.

Petrol £1.60 a gallon

Italian petrol prices rose by nearly 4 per cent today, their third increase in six months to take account of higher oil prices. A litre of super grade petrol now costs 680 lire (equal to £1.60 a gallon).

Steel orders down

Orders for rolled steel products received in February by West German steel companies declined 4.3 per cent from January but were up 16.2 per cent in a year. February rolled steel orders totalled 1,905,000 tonnes compared with 1,992,000 tonnes in January and 1,639,000 tonnes in February 1979.

Mexico stays out

Mexico has decided against joining the general agreement on tariffs and trade (GATT), but will pursue a "new, more fair, economic order". President Jose Lopez Portillo said. He said Mexico's economic development required more flexibility than the 83-nation trade liberalization organization would allow.

Production down almost 4 million tons, but Japanese yards still dominant

World shipbuilding hits 13-year low

Output of the world's shipbuilding industry sank to a 13-year low last year, and although prospects for the future are a little brighter, world shipyards still face a testing time over the next three years.

Total world production amounted to 14,289,369 tons gross, representing a fall of nearly 4 million tons on the levels established in the previous year and the lowest level of completions since 1966.

The production figures, compiled in the annual survey published by Lloyd's Register of Shipping, exclude the output from the Soviet Union and from Chinese yards. But they demonstrate the extent to which the shipbuilding industry has been forced to cut back production as a result of the steep drop in orders which arose from the 1973-74 oil crisis and the collapse of demand for large tankers.

One of the most significant features to emerge from the latest survey is the emergence of the United States as a major force in world shipbuilding. Against the overall trend, the Americans achieved a record level of completions last year of 1.3 million tons—a level which the British industry has achieved in the past.

Helped by generous subsidies, the United States industry has become heavily involved in building costly and advanced ships especially chemical carriers and liquefied natural gas carriers. Last year's output, up by nearly 320,000 tons on the 1979 levels, included the three largest natural gas carriers completed last year.

In second place in the world order "league table", the United States output accounted for 9.5 per cent of all tonnage completed, but this was masked by the continued dominance of the Japanese. Their shipbuilding industry, although substantially down at 4.7 million tons on the heavy production levels of a few years ago, still accounted for nearly 33 per cent of all merchant ships completed last year.

In fact the tonnage completed by Japan's yards was the lowest recorded since 1964 and underlines the extent to which the world shipbuilding crisis has severely undermined the Japanese industry which had built up enormous capacity to meet demand for large ships.

Output was down by 1.6 million tons on the previous year, but the emphasis placed by Japan on export contracts and its continued competitiveness alongside its European rivals was underlined by the fact that 60 per cent of all ships completed in Japan were for overseas registrations.

The French shipbuilding industry moved into third place with output of 719,863 tons, up by nearly 280,000 tons on the previous year. France, the United States, and Brazil, now firmly established as one of the world's leading shipbuilding nations, were the only countries to increase their completion levels last year. The Brazilian increase in output reflected the substantial build up of the country's domestic fleet—90 per cent of vessels

completed last year were for Brazilian owners. Although still expensive, a number of Brazilian yards are beginning to look for overseas orders to maintain production.

Against the background of the recent trickle of work into Britain, the largely nationalised United Kingdom shipbuilding industry slipped down the world rankings to fourth place, with output falling by nearly 442,000 tons to 691,404 tons.

The state sector of the industry is well on the way to achieving its target of a 45-ship baseline of work in tide it over the thin years ahead, and is mounting a drive to boost productivity which will be accompanied by further slimming of the industry's labour force.

Losses of British Shipbuilders in the year ending this month will be only just within the £100m limit set by the Government, and in the new financial year it will face an even tougher battle to remain within the limits.

British shipowners continue to be major customers of foreign yards, much to the chagrin of British Shipbuilders' executives. Last year, according to Lloyd's, tonnage built overseas for United Kingdom flag registration amounted to 417,102 tons, while Britain's industry, which has managed to increase its share of orders for domestic owners, built 35 per cent of its ships for foreign owners.

Peter Hill

Complaint to OECD over China contract

By David Hewson

Britain has complained to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that a report by a British company to win a contract for a large power plant in China by offering an interest-free loan to pay for it.

The offer, if proved, would breach the OECD's gentlemen's agreement on trade with developing countries. Mr Cecil Parkinson, Britain's Minister of State for Trade, refused to comment on the individual case yesterday, but said that the Government's views were being made known to the OECD.

He told businessmen at a London conference organised by Business Perspectives and The Times to discuss trade prospects with China: "We don't think it is in anyone's interests to start a credit war. If there are unfair practices we will, through the OECD, put pressure on the countries using them."

Mr Parkinson's remarks follow concern, which has been compounded by reports of the attempted Belgian deal, that Britain suffers from automatic disadvantages in winning some of the large contracts which are expected as part of China's modernization drive. He admitted yesterday that British companies were at a disadvantage because of the nature of

the United Kingdom foreign aid programme.

"One of the problems that we do have is that other governments may be in a better position to use their aid programme to back up their businessmen than we can," Mr Parkinson said.

"Our aid programme, which is fairly considerable, is well committed in the future. A growing proportion now goes in multilateral aid through such things as the World Bank. What is left is very much spoken for in former colonies and newly developing countries with which we have a special relationship. Against that background of commitments, we can offer no hope of the aid programme being increased."

But, he added, there was a good basis for support for British companies' efforts in China which, taken as a whole, compared favourably with the support provided by other Western governments.

The Export Credit Guarantee Department had recently agreed, in consultation with the British banks concerned, to extend its support for medium to long term project finance from the previous minimum of \$1m to a new minimum of \$100,000m.

"We will, of course, face fierce competition from other industrialized nations seeking to make advantage of the opening up and modernization of China."



Mr Edward Heath meets Mr Liu Chin-sheng, commercial councillor at the Chinese embassy, at the Business Perspectives/The Times conference on Chinese trade.

But many British goods compare favourably with any in the world for quality and sophistication.

"If we can cultivate the right sectors, be flexible and imaginative in our trading methods, and sell our goods on the right terms, then the Chinese market should be increasingly profitable."

Much new business, however, will be in the form of counter trade, though the Government "does not actively encourage counter trade, and indeed it has some instinctive reaction against it," said Mr Parkinson.

China needed counter trade agreements because they were a

way of harnessing Western marketing skills for selling and helped to offset the Chinese lack of foreign exchange.

But Mr Parkinson warned British businessmen not to regard China as an "Eldorado" for trade. "Certainly our trade figures for the past 12 months show that British industry has responded vigorously to the new challenges of the China market," he said.

Our exports in 1979 more than doubled over the previous year. We had a surplus of \$73 million for the first time since 1975. And total trade reached a record \$350m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Contractors angered by cement prices

From Mr Maurice Laing
Sir, As Lord Boyd-Carpenter ("Cement makers agree to peg prices for year", March 19) has joined those who "blow their heads off in public", may I acquaint him with some facts of which he may not be aware:

1. Construction contracts of one year's duration or less, are awarded on a fixed price basis. Is he therefore really surprised at his customers' anger when with only a matter of days' warning, one of the basic commodities jumps up no less than 24 per cent when it had risen by 13 per cent only six months previously and by a similar amount at the beginning of 1979?

Contractors do of course anticipate increases in their highly competitive bids, but on the experience of last year they could at best only make similar assumptions about price rises in 1980. On fast, cement-intensive contracts of 12 months' duration, the difference on one contract alone between a rise of 13 per cent in six months, compared with 24 per cent in one jump, can amount to £50,000. Anybody who submitted a bid before February 11 is badly caught.

2. When the cement makers successfully defended their pricing arrangements before the Restrictive Practices Court in 1963, one of the main arguments which was accepted by

the court was that due to that arrangement British cement was the cheapest in the world. After a further 17 years of operation, this is no longer so, and resulting from the recent price rises, importation of continental cement cannot be long delayed.

3. The price of cement is arrived at on a "cost-plus" basis, taking into account what is "needed" to achieve a satisfactory return on capital. As a process industry much of its costs are made up of: depreciation; cost of replacement of assets; and overheads, and are "fixed".

On a cost-plus basis in a time of falling demand prices inevitably materially rise. This is in great contrast to the rest of industry where, due to market forces, prices fall in real terms. That is the outworking of free enterprise.

4. While this federation is pleased to receive the assurances that they have now been given by the cement makers, if it had not been for the director-general and myself "blowing our heads off in public", even this modest concession would not have been obtained.

MAURICE LAING,
President,
The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors,
Cowdray House,
8 Portway Street,
London WC2A 2RH.

Furniture profit margins

From Mr R. W. Bloore
Sir, Your correspondent Harris (Business News 4), speaks of "the true high profits on domestic goods where gross margin is 80 per cent: have you any comment?"

By such a general he gives circulation misleading interpretation of profit margins which retailers are likely to indeed, 80 per cent margin is quite common the VAT and other taxes. Thus, it is VAT in a profit on 26.1 per cent and must be deducted the which at current rate, to leave a trading, p per cent or 3 per cent before tax.

This profit structure holds good so long as related to the expense incurred and should the ship alter by red volume then it disappears true state of affairs to with the "tradition profits" to which I have somewhat casually Yours faithfully,
R. W. BLOORE,
Reginald Bloore Associates,
Little Court,
Penny Plot,
Dorset, Dorset,
March 4.

Languages and trade

From Mr C. G. Hadley
Sir, Bob Crew's interesting article "Loss of trade and lack of language" March 10 included a number of statements that call for correction:

It is no longer true that "most 'A' level syllabuses... in modern languages insist that quantities of classical literature should be learnt"; some allow students to replace literature by background study or to choose a combination of these elements; moreover, the lists of prescribed texts have for many years now included very modern authors; an increasing number of boards are putting out alternative syllabuses that concentrate on the language.

Although it may be true that potential sixth form students of modern languages have been off by the traditional literary image of the subject, the relative decline at that level cannot be attributed solely or even largely to that cause. The reasons for the "unpopularity" of modern languages in the sixth form are many and varied, and the career image and the structure of the curriculum must be included among these.

We are all aware with Bob Crew that a good linguist does not necessarily make a good business man, but should be no question that a competence in languages is a desirable addition to other qualities and skills. Since we have difficulty selling our goods, we cannot afford to follow the quoted example of the Americans and Japanese. Language teachers accept that their main role must be that of servicing students in other specialisms. The rejected "N" and "F" proposals for the restructuring of the sixth form curriculum, would have ensured that more students retained contact with modern languages. Our main thrust must be to develop and support the "AO" syllabuses of the type mentioned in Bob Crew's article. They will, however, attract customers in sufficient numbers only if AO is accorded real status in the framework of sixth form studies.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. HADLEY,
Headmaster,
(Chairman, Schools' Council Modern Languages Committee),
Goffs School,
Goffs Lane,
Cheshunt, EN7 5QW,
Hertfordshire,
March 17.

Mrs Thatcher rewards for initiative

From Major F. N. L.

Sir, Mrs Thatcher missed me a rose: she did say, or seem that, if I voted for her, I would be rewarded, I voted for her and she

A short time ago initiative and thought from her, thinking initiative would be re BP did well. BP have wall and I shall be pointed if Mrs Thatcher permits the Channel. Exchequer to take me my fair share of Yours faithfully,
FRANK L. CHAPMAN,
Thorpe,
Friday Street,
Painswick,
Gloucestershire GL6
March 15.

The Times Awards 1980



The Times Awards for the best advertisement of a company's results have aroused considerable interest since their introduction in 1974, and we have great pleasure in announcing the 1980 awards.

The categories in which awards will be made are listed below.

The conditions of entry remain unchanged.

The awards will follow the established pattern, namely:

a) The Grand Prix, to be held for one year awarded to the entrant whose advertisement is, in the opinion of the judges, the best submitted, irrespective of category. The Grand Prix consists of a silver trophy, specially designed for The Times by Gordon Hodgson.

b) First, second and third prizes for category winners. First prize is a beautiful sterling silver clock, based on The Times motif.

Second and third placings each receive a commemorative silver medallion. All categories awards will be made to both the winning advertiser and agent.

The Panel of Judges. The

awards will be made by an independent panel of judges, selected for their understanding of this specialised form of communication.

They will judge entries in accordance with the following criteria. An advertisement of a company's results, whether the Chairman's statement is or is not included in full or in abridged form, should:

- Attract the eye, by virtue of its design.
- Be easy to read, by use of skilful typography.
- Contain such information as prospective investors or professional advisers are likely to require, including details of the business carried on by the company.
- Include, at the option of the advertiser, such illustrations, graphs, or diagrams as may be necessary to supplement (c) above.
- Leave the reader with the impression that the company concerned would be a good one to do business with, to work for, or to invest in.

Note: In the case of the categories 'Interim Results' and 'Preliminary Results' only criteria (a) to (d) will apply.

Conditions of Entry

All entries are free, but must have appeared in the pages of The Times Business News during 1980.

The following are the categories in which awards will be made:

- Annual Results.
 - Colour or black and white. Half page or larger, or equivalent.
 - Colour or black and white. Less than half page or equivalent.
- Interim Results. Colour or black and white. (All sizes.)
- Preliminary Results. Colour or black and white. (All sizes.)

The Judges will have the option of making at their absolute discretion, special awards for the following.

*The best advertisement by an overseas company.

*The best advertisement smaller than 20 cms x 4 cols.

*The advertisement which makes the most significant contribution to new and imaginative thinking in financial advertising (without necessarily satisfying all the criteria for the Grand Prix or Category Winners).

Presentation of the awards will be made early in 1981 and entries will be accepted until December 31st 1980. They should take the form of art pulls of the same size in which they actually appeared in The Times, mounted on board, with a clear indication of the category in which they are to be judged.

Six unmounted art pulls should also be provided for the use of the award judges.

They should be sent to: Michael Mander, Deputy Chief Executive and Marketing Director, The Times Awards, The Times, Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Tel: 01-837 1234.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Interest centres on oils and mines

Interest in stock markets continued to be sporadic and confined to a few sectors with the general trading pattern remaining dull and lifeless as investors looked cautiously ahead to next week's Budget.

As on the previous day, the oils and mines sector showed the most activity, although the market received a boost during the afternoon with the news that the steel talks will be resumed today. The unions are expected to request that a three-man committee of enquiry consider their case.

Gilt were not helped at the beginning of the day by the Bank of England's Quarterly Review prospects and the Governor, Mr Gordon Richardson's warning that high interest rates would be around for some time.

A state of company results, including figures from Barclays Bank and Tricentrol, dominated equities.

Although the FT index dropped back 1.4 to 430.6, it gradually improved and maintained this through the close, finishing at 433.3, up 1.2.

The only changes after hours included some easing in oils and mines. BP shaved an earlier 6p gain to finish 2p up at 358p while Tricentrol moved back 4p to 288p, still ending 8p up after reporting a £13m profit improvement.

Some of the heavy-weight gold shares lost around 50 cents from rises achieved earlier on the higher bullion price.

In the gilt-edged market, the day started £1 easier for long but picked up to close £1 easier. The Government's proposals announced at lunchtime for improvements in the system of monetary control contained too few radical changes to the

present system to make much impact.

Shorts opened £1 to £1 off Wednesday night's high levels and there was some selling. But the market steadied slightly and hovered around the lower levels for the remainder of the day.

Shares in Eurotherm International (yield just over 2 per cent) have dived 4p to 380p in little more than a fortnight. A brokers' circular, rights issue rumours and worries that directors may sell more of their shares, were to blame. There will be no rights issue, capital spending has passed its peak, pre-tax profits this year could rise from 1978-79's £2.9m to around £3.5m and further boardroom share sales will probably be small.

finishing £1 to £1 off the highest levels. After hours, it ended £1 off the bottom for the day. Variables came in for support with a point rise.

Dealers reported a fairly firm but unenthusiastic market in leading industrial stocks. Unilever at 423p, Rank at 202p, Fisons at 272p and BAT Industries at 233p were all unchanged by the end, having put on a couple of pence at some points.

ICI showed one of the biggest gains for the day, rising 6p to 370p, while Beechams added 2p to 121p. Glaxo gained 4p to 248p and Pilkington rose by 4p to 218p. Courtaulds, which has recently been the subject of some activity in the traded options market, added 1p to 70p, despite fears that the company's results in May may not enable it to maintain the dividend to 186p, while Dunlop added 1p

to 60p.

Of the 31 companies which reported during the day, Wolsley Hughes announced interim profits up by 40 per cent with a 20 per cent dividend boost which pushed the share price up 20p to 288p.

Barclays Bank whose 42 per cent improvement in profits was at the top end of expectations, finished the day unchanged at 415p, having fallen back to 407p before the announcement.

Boddingtons Brewery, the "real ale" group, also saw profits grow by 30 per cent and the share price added 1p to 117p.

Hepworth Ceramic's earnings explosion of 20 per cent ensured an 8p gain to 105p while Lex Service also gave a 55 per cent dividend increase, and added 21p to 901p.

Lamps saw the share price drop back 5p to 395p after a profits fall and Stone-Platt fell back from 423p to 37p after heavy profits fall and the news that the final dividend was to be passed.

Steetley added 3p to 176p with improved profits and insurance broker, C. T. Bowring, gained 5p to 133p on a sharp increase in the dividend. West Group's shares continued on the downward path, losing 4p to 37p after the previous day's poor results, while Dickinson Robinson added 1p to 102p after profit figures announced on Wednesday.

Wills and Allen eased 5p to 306p on the results, Channel Tunnel revived during the day and gained 30p to 200p after hopes were revived by the Government's announcement that the rail tunnel might become a reality. On the bid front, Furness Withy were

clipped by 8p to 380p on fears that Mr C. Y. Tung's 420p bid might be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Montague L. Meyer, the timber group, subject of bid rumours for weeks and now rumoured as a possible bidder for Mallinson-Denny, gained 4p to 112p while Mallinson's added 3p to 63p.

Muirhead showed a sharp move upward as speculation recommenced, by going from 191p to 202p. UDT added 3p to 55p after rumours of a possible bid from Citibank, while MFI, whose bid for Status Discount was expected to be imminent, remained unchanged at 76p.

In oils, where recovery was seen mainly among the second-liners, Shell retreated by 6p to 358p. Ultramar was unchanged at 492p and Burnish added 2p to 198p. Lasmo gained 15p to 450p, while Viking, the current bid favourite, stayed at 1030p.

Shares in Muirhead, the fast-moving transmission group, have been on the move again, closing at 202p yesterday for a two-day gain. Speculators are hoping for a bid from the United States Tyco Laboratories, which owns a quarter of the equity and started building up its stake at around the 200p level. But rumour has it that Tyco no longer wants out, which could leave some fingers burnt.

Siebens advanced 13p to 508p as the setback the sector received continued to diminish and confidence is gradually restored. National Carbonising gained 1p to 127p, reflecting its oil interests and Weeks Petroleum continued to benefit from the spin-off created by the oil discovery in south west Louisiana earlier in the week. It went up by 35p to 365p. Carless Capel was unchanged at 83p.

Among the mines there were some sharp increases as the bullion price continued to rise reaching \$361 at the afternoon fix, while the bid for the London Financials Consolidated Gold Fields gained 14p to 489p, and Rio Tinto Zinc added 3p to 368p. De Beers D'vd went from 592/16 to 591/32.

Of the Australians, Posidonia reflected the gold and commodity price rise, adding 25p to 115p while Western Mining rose 6p to 207p.

In the rubbers, bid speculation over Guthrie which is likely to go on until the end of the month when Sime is permitted to raise more shares, was abortive after the price up 10p to 800p while Castledale added 25p to 502p.

Equity turnover for March 19 was £87.75m (number of bargains, 14,924). The most active stocks according to the E-x change's Telegraph, were Premier, Burnish, Rio Tinto Zinc, Tricentrol, Bat, Beecham, Turner and Newall, Shell, BP, Mills & Allen, GEC and Recal.

Steetley ahead of forecasts at £23.5m

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Both Steetley and its recent £30m acquisition Gibbons Dudley have beaten the forecasts made at the time of the offer. So, including a £62,000 pretax contribution, net of its cash financing costs, from Gibbons, Steetley's profits for 1979 were up from £20.4m to £23.5m. Sales rose by 19 per cent to £297.5m.

Steetley's major activities are mineral extraction, producing construction materials and chemicals and chemicals. The overseas companies in Europe, Canada and Australia supplied most of the growth in 1979. Overseas profits before interest rose by 46 per cent to £8.5m where they now account for 30 per cent of the group total.

Exports from the United Kingdom managed a 16 per cent rise to £28m despite the strength of sterling. But United Kingdom profits at the pre-interest level were only about 5 per cent higher, following the poor start to 1979 when the bad weather and transport strike cost the group over £2m in lost profit.

Steetley has been investing heavily over the last few years—capital spending was £15m in 1979—and Gibbons Dudley looks a good fit. But prospects for 1980 are clouded by the steel strike. The steel industry is a major customer for the group's refractories and minerals.

Up 3p to 176p the shares yielded 8.5 per cent after the 43 per cent rise in the gross dividend. The fully-taxed p/e ratio is 7.1.

Options

Even the latest surge in the gold price failed to instil much life into traded options yesterday, although contracts rose slightly from 292 to 299. Things are likely to remain this way until the Budget next week when it is hoped that the Government will clarify the capital gains and stamp duty rules in relation to traded options.

However, some dealers feel that should the situation remain unaltered it may signal the end of traded options on the London market.

Nevertheless, investors did express some interest in Consolidated Gold and RTZ although dealers described turnover as low.

Traditional options had another busy day even though the amount of new business was negligible.

"Puts" were arranged in Ashton Mining, Tricentrol and MEPC while a "double" was completed in Rothmans Int.

Tricentrol plans US expansion as profits soar

By Richard Allen

Revenues from Tricentrol's near 10 per cent stake in the North Sea's Thistle field have produced an unexpected upsurge in profits.

For the year to December 31, profits were more than £13m up at £21.3m pre-tax with a £9m jump to £13.7m in United Kingdom oil and gas production proceeds providing most of the improvement.

Liquidity is such that the group has decided for this year at least to abandon its policy of paying dividends out of non-oil profits and ploughing the rest back into exploration and production.

The final dividend has been increased to 6p gross, making a year's total of 10p gross, which represents a four-fold increase and is covered less than three times by total earnings.

Meanwhile the group intends to continue its expansionary thrust with the help of a placing in the United States and

Canada, which could result in shares equal to as much as 02 per cent of the existing equity being offered to transatlantic investors.

Tricentrol intends to use the proceeds to accelerate growth in North America. It has looked at a number of opportunities in the oil and gas area, and hopes to launch a significant takeover move in the second half of this year.

The group's United States ambitions will be supported by a revaluation of the group's Thistle field and existing North American reserves. An independent valuation has put a figure of £115m on discounted future net cash flow from Thistle compared with a book value of £30m and a figure of £80.4m on proven Canadian and United States reserves against a book total of £17.6m.

News of the revaluations helped lift the shares 8p to 288p yesterday.



Photograph by John Manning

Despite three years of falling profits, Mr James Insh (above right), chairman of Stridm Quilcast, gave shareholders no hint of current trading at yesterday's annual meeting.

However, in his annual report he warned that 1980 may not be the best year for the group to demonstrate the benefits of its rationalization programme

because of the United Kingdom and world recession.

In 1979, pre-tax profits fell from £4.8m to £3.1m and the dividend was cut by a quarter, but Mr Insh told shareholders in the report and accounts that the group was planning to achieve considerably improved profits in the current period.

Mr Insh is pictured above with his deputy chairman Mr Brian Filton.

Hepworth Ceramic improves to £36m

By Alison Mitchell

Despite difficult trading conditions in the past year, Hepworth Ceramic managed to increase profits by almost a fifth on the back of increased productivity.

An expansionary capital spending programme, which has enabled the group to install new plant and equipment and lower unit costs, has boosted 1979 pretax profits from £30.4m to £36m. Turnover rose £25m to £272m, leaving margins a full point higher at 13.6 per cent.

The group's main division, clayware, was the only one to reduce its contribution—from £15.1m to £14.4m—as a result of a downturn in the market in America. Several plants were of commission during the period for the installation of new equipment and this ought to boost profits in the current year.

In the United Kingdom, clayware side increased its profits by around £1.6m.

The refractories subsidiaries showed the largest improvement, more than doubling pretax margins from 4.3 per cent to 8.7 per cent, despite a downturn in demand in real terms. Turnover at £61m was little more than maintained during the year while pretax profits rose from £2.6m to £5.3m.

Exports from the United Kingdom rose from £32.8m to £35.9m. The group also made a profit of £912,000 on the sale of an unlisted investment in America.

After the group's £28m rights issue, in October, Hepworth is thought to have some £20m in cash in its balance sheet. However, capital spending is likely to be £40m annually over the next few years and the group is also on the look out for an acquisition in America.

As forecast at the time of the rights, the full year dividend has been raised by a third to 7.14p gross. At this level the shares, which rose 8p to 105p yesterday, yield 6.8 per cent and trade at five times fully taxed earnings.

Lex's performance pleases the market

By Our Financial Staff

Despite a slow-down in the second half, BL and Volvo car dealer Lex Service Group still produced "buoyant" annual figures and a 50 per cent rise in the dividend. And the news was enough to add 3p to the shares at 901p yesterday.

Turnover, at £499m for 1979, was a quarter up on the previous year, while pre-tax profits rose from £18m to £22.8m. At the trading level, profits at £28.8m showed a better rise on the previous period, but an increase in borrowings pushed interest charges from £4.5m to £6m.

Lex had a successful year with Volvo (where the prime business is as importers and suppliers to the 240 dealerships) and the upturn has continued into the current period, where the registration of vehicles is still up.

The group also appears to have a trading in new cars. The current BL has a 20 per cent share in the market. The hotels division, London's Carl, traded in line with expectations. A final dividend of 10p, which, with trading at 901p, yields to 11 per cent earnings multiple at 2.9.

At the end of last group increased its United Carriers, a 1 per cent stake in the group. However, the group yesterday said it is seeing an investment in a potential take-over board.

Business appointments

Director for Scottish American

Sir Alan Down has been made a director of Scottish American Investment.

Mr Douglas MacLeod has joined Barratt Construction as technical director. Mr Norman Bruce, previous holder of the post, has been made commercial director.

Mr S. H. Wright, a director of Lazard Brothers, has joined the board of Westelstone Bank.

Mr Peter Collard has been made manufacturing director of Holt Lloyd.

Mr Barry G. K. Brice has become a partner in Plesant.

Mr Ian Henderson becomes managing director of Potato & Allied Services.

Sir Alan Campbell has become a director of National Westminster Bank's main board.

Mr John Parker, board member for shipbuilding, British Shipbuilders, has been elected a member of the international general committee of Bureau Veritas, the French ship classification society.

Mr R. H. Sellar, assistant managing director of Cementation International, has been made managing director of Cementation Construction.

Mr W. Hargrave is now chairman of Texaco and the president of Texaco Production Services, has become a managing director of Texaco.

Mr R. J. Marshall is now president of LBI (Canada). He will also be chief representative of Lloyds Bank International in Toronto.

Lord Chalmers, a non-executive director of Shandwick Consultants.

Mr A. Ross Beitch, retiring chairman and managing director of Scott Lithgow, has been made a director of Gault Armstrong and Kemble (International).

Mr W. Hargrave is now chairman of Pointon York Sclater. Mr Nigel Sclater is managing director and Mr Geoffrey Pointon has been made a director.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int of Fin	2.4(1.2)	0.75(0.14)	150.5(105.3)	3.9(2.5)	3/4	—
Barclays Bank (F)	—	529.4(373.3)	150.5(105.3)	14.5(11.0)	—	26.4(20.2)
C. T. Bowring (F)	—	38.5(38.4)	14.3(14.3)	4.55(2.35)	—	6.0(3.36)
Bronx Eng (F)	—	0.63(0.31)	4.8(2.31)	1.0(0.51)	12/5	2.10(1.75)
Capsal (F)	11.6(10.8)	0.85(0.80)	5.0(5.1)	3.5(3.1)	23/5	—
Cope Allman (F)	99.6(90.9)	5.71(5.63)	9.16(8.19)	1.78(1.70)	27/6	—
Courtesy Pope (F)	10.5(18.4)	0.44(0.42)	5.8(5.6)	1.2(1.2)	19/5	—
Discor-Strand (F)	0.44(0.39)	0.20(0.19)	2.0(2.0)	0.1(0.1)	—	—
Fluor (F)	6.9(7.2)	0.26(0.23)	—	0.2(0.2)	4/4	3.3(2.4)
Hepworth Ceramic (F)	27.0(247.0)	36.2(30.4)	20.9(15.7)	2.78(1.53)	2/6	5.0(3.60)
Liverpool Ltd (F)	54.5(54.4)	4.1(4.0)	—	5.0(5.0)	25/4	9.5(8.1)
Lex (F)	10.5(18.4)	22.8(18.0)	30.78(27.65)	4.24(2.7)	13/5	7.0(4.5)
Mills & Allen Int (F)	25.5(25.5)	4.7(4.7)	20.4(18.2)	0.6(0.6)	28/3	1.03(0.99)
New Equipment Ltd (F)	1.8(1.7)	0.13(0.14)	—	0.8(0.8)	—	0.8(0.8)
Norvic Secs (F)	—	0.14(0.11)	—	0.50(0.50)	20/5	—
Presac Holdings (F)	4.7(4.6)	0.27(0.25)	1.32(1.27)	0.3(0.3)	23/4	—
Photo-Me Int (F)	13.0(13.0)	0.55(0.52)	1.0(1.0)	1.0(1.0)	—	—
J. & J. Makin (F)	7.16(21)	0.12(0.11)	—	1.20(1.20)	—	1.8(1.8)
Philips Lamp (F)(2)	33.240(23.658)	619(707)	—	1.1(1.1)	—	—
Stone Platt (F)	211.0(193.0)	2.94(1.95)	14.7(15.9)	1.1(1.1)	—	—
Steetley (F)	298.0(250.0)	2.5(2.5)	3.7(3.7)	6.5(4.7)	25/4	10.5(7.25)
Rock Durium (F)	1.25(—)	0.25(—)	—	0.75(—)	—	—
Second City Props (F)	8.4(10.2)	0.53(0.41)	—	0.6(0.5)	—	—
Sharpe & Fisher (F)	22.9(18.1)	1.5(1.2)	—	1.25(0.83)	30/5	1.75(1.39)
Tale of Leeds (F)	13.0(13.0)	0.55(0.52)	—	1.25(1.25)	1/5	1.25(1.25)
F. W. Thorpe (F)	2.3(2.0)	0.40(0.37)	—	4.2(4.2)	14/5	—
Tricentrol (F)	209.0(142.0)	21.3(8.0)	20.8(14.9)	2.62(2.22)	30/5	4.12(4.12)
J. Wilkes (F)	10.6(8.9)	0.06(0.39)	—	1.05(0.52)	1/7	1.75(1.52)
Winstone Estates (F)	105.1(78.2)	0.06(0.39)	—	4.4(3.6)	3/6	—
Wolsley Hughes (F)	—	—	—	1.05(0.52)	1/7	1.75(1.52)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Shareholders in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. *loss +9 months +Florins.

Dixor rescue operation

By Our Financial Staff

Following a £249,000 annual loss at cosmetics manufacturer Dixor-Strand a non-executive director, Mr Norman Davis, has arranged a £500,000 rescue operation for the company.

The cash will come from the issue of shares and loans to two London businessmen who are already associated with the manufacturing and marketing of cosmetics and toiletries. Under the new scheme—which has to be approved by shareholders—the newcomers will end up with 80 per cent of the enlarged company. It is proposed that Mr Davis will become the new chairman.

Approval has already been given in principle by the Take-Over Panel and the new investors will not be required to make a full bid.

The London-based Dixor-Strand got into trouble following a factory move and in the 12 months to September 30, a pre-tax loss of £249,000, 1979, plunged into the red with a previous profit of £71,000. Turnover rose from £39,000 to £43,000 in the period.

Since the year-end, the group has been trading at a loss and, according to the company, this has jeopardised trading because of the shortage of cash to finance continued business.

A long-term loan of £500,000 was not considered feasible because of the high level of interest charges.

Law Society suggests easing of stamp duty

In its Budget submission to the Chancellor, the Law Society recommends that stamp duty should not be charged on transfers of property worth less than £30,000—ie, double the present exemption limit of £15,000. The society also says that there should be some relief from capital gains tax to allow for the inflationary element in gains. Its members suggest that the value of an asset should be increased by a fixed percentage for each year that it is held, so reducing the gain that is taxed.

They also recommend a reduction in the top rate of capital transfer tax from 75 to 50 per cent and the doubling of the present exemption limit to £50,000. They say that the annual exemption of £2,000 should be lifted to £5,000. They recommend that the percentage of earnings which may be contributed to self-employed pension schemes should be substantially increased.

Briefly

Rock Durium (formerly Bank Bridge Group) reports turnover for nine months to December 31 of £1.25m. Pretax profit, £258,000. Dividend, 1.07p gross. No commissions available.

Courtesy Pope (Holdings): Turnover for half-year to November 30, £10.59m (£8.42m). Pretax profit, £440,000 (£425,000). Interest payment, 1.71p (same) gross.

F. W. Thorpe: Turnover for half-year to December 31 rose from £2.08m to £2.3m and pretax profits from £278,000 to £400,000. Interest payment, 1.42p (1.05p).

New Equipment Ltd: Turnover for year to October 31, £1.55m (£1.73m). Pretax profit, £132,000 (£144p) gross.

Fluor: Turnover for year 1979, £13.01m (£13.05m). Pretax profit, £682,000 (£481,000). Dividend, 1.75p (1.86p) gross.

Ernst & Young: Holdings is making a one-for-one scrip issue and raising the ordinary dividend from £2.55p to 3p gross for the year to November 30. Turnover, £11.21m (£12.16m). Pretax profit, £624,000 (£317,000).

Presac Holdings pretax trading profit for year to March 31, £4.68m (£4.7m) more than doubled to £7.6m (against £556,000) in the six months to January 31. Turnover edged forward from £4.68m to £4.7m.

Stone Platt has announced a full increase in its dividend to 2p (from 1.5p) gross. There was a general fall in demand for electronic household components in the last quarter, the board reports; this is expected to continue for the rest of the year.

Grimsdale Holdings has acquired Grimsdale Plastic Industries of Woolwich, the division manufacturing plastic computer spoons. The cash price of the plant, stock (to be evaluated) and know-how will be about £225,000.

Rio Tinto Rhodesia: With the recent announcement of full interest being granted for Zimbabwe on April 18 Rio Tinto Zinc has confirmed to the directors of Rio Tinto Rhodesia that they will assist the development of existing and new projects by making available £5m.

J. & J. Makin Paper Mills: Turn

FINANCIAL NEWS

Bowring's pretax profits up 29.5 pc

Financial Staff.
Bowring's pretax profits are up 29.5 per cent to £2.25m in the six months to October 31, compared with £1.74m in the same period last year.

The volume of business is running at the same level as last year. But 4.3 per cent volume increase, combined with a 2.5 per cent increase in prices, has led to a 16 per cent increase in sales to £21.5m.

However, the 9.5 per cent increase in the volume of business is being offset by a 1.5 per cent decrease in efficiency, pending was about 979 and the whole

£3.3m development programme is expected to be completed this summer. Spending may fall slightly this year and the emphasis will start switching towards development of its tied estate.

Free trade sales, which represent 18 per cent of the total sales, are also to be expanded. Below the line a higher tax charge leaves the after tax figure at £2.25m from £2.1m and, after extraordinary items, the attributable profit is £2.27m against £2.12m.

This leaves the 5.36p gross total dividend raised by 25 per cent, 2.7 times. Stated earnings per share came out at 10.03p against 9.25p.

The shares rose 1p yesterday to 117p to yield 4.6 per cent with a p/e ratio of 11.7.

Key lines ahead

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Newspaper group sees little growth

By Michael Clark

Despite a shortfall in profits at the halfway stage the Liverpool Daily Post & Echo has managed to show some growth overall—but only just.

Pretax profits for the full year to December 31 show an increase of £92,000 compared with the £4m for the 15 months to December 31. This was slightly below most market expectations and was achieved on turnover virtually unchanged at £54.5m leaving a trading profit of £3.78m.

The directors have proposed a final dividend of 10.1p gross making a total of 15.8p against 13.5p.

Last year the group underwent rationalization which included the closure of its web-offset operation in Liverpool at a cost of £776,000 and the sale of its Ritzes retail chain, consisting of over 100 shops.

This accounted for an extraordinary item of £1.03m compared with a debit of £1.07m which was partly responsible for the rise in other income from £230,000 to £316,000.

However, the board warns that the threatening recession does not augur well for the current year with the likelihood of a cut in advertising revenue. But on the plus side the paper making and packaging sides should maintain their trading results.

The problems of the first half which included the lorry drivers' strike and bad weather were replaced in the second half by the strength of sterling and pressure on margins.

Rich takeover for Perkins

Perkins Holdings has a 48 per cent stake in the smaller of the two, 8.84m French francs (£923,000), which has been taken over by a medium-sized company.

Designs and machinery are France and Italy. Products are in those countries Africa and the Middle East. Perkins has 700 employees, of which 300 are in France. At 30, 1979, capital employed was 25m francs. The business was a short-term bank and long-term loans. Perkins says the acquisition will further its design and manufacturing activities and establish an international wide range of products to the food industry.

5m pretax by Fisher

A 26.2 per cent greater pretax profit of £2.5m was achieved by Fisher in the six months to October 31, compared with £1.51m in the same period last year. A gross payment of £1.1m from the equivalent 2.5p gross. Earnings are up 5.2p to 6.1p and the asset share from 38p to 43p. The pretax capital employed rose from 19.1 to 21.5 per cent. The company's activities cover merchants and DIT reased volume and distribution was achieved of the merchanting.

Margins at City Props

Second City Properties has reduced its margins to 3.4m in the six months to October 31, pretax up by 28.5 per cent. This is mainly due to the improved private housing market with the company's predetermined in the group's activities. Raising the dividend from 0.8p to 1.0p, Mr G. L. Jobanus, chairman, says he is confident the full-year results improvement on last year.

Lend rise c Secs

A dividend of Norvic is being boosted by 1.14p to 1.71p to 1.71p to 1.71p. Annual sales (excluding investments) expanded to £16.13m. Pretax profit rose to £1.5m, up from £1.15m. The board does not expect future profits to be as high as 1979's tax of £37,000, against essentially represents

A.C.T. on dividends paid and proposed. The T.E.S. included in profits fell to £29,000, compared with £155,000 in 1978.

Development sales hits City of Aberdeen land

Boosted by £353,000 from the sale of office development, pretax profits of City of Aberdeen Land Association soared to £756,000 in the half-year to December 31. This compares with £145,000 in the similar half-year last year and the full-year results of £396,000 achieved in 1978-79. The interim dividend, gross, is being raised from 3.73p to 5p. The board is confident about the future.

Rolls-Royce Motors expects higher profit

Provided Rolls-Royce Motors Holdings can successfully cope with the aftermath of the national steel strike and there are no further major national disruptions, profits in 1980 should see an improvement over 1979's £7.14m pretax, despite the problems associated with inflation. So writes Mr Ian Fraser, the chairman, in his annual report.

The steel strike is beginning to have further depressive effects on the economy and Rolls-Royce Motors has had a dispute at the Shrewsbury factory, now settled, which has cost the company "considerable revenue" in February, the chairman reveals.

Mills & Allen jumps 56pc at half-time

On turnover 45 per cent up at £22.5m, pre-tax profits of Mills & Allen International jumped by 56 per cent to £4.72m in the half-year to December 31. All major trading divisions achieved improved results during a period which benefited from the strong demand for outdoor and cinema advertising and the high level of activity in the money broking business.

The second half has started "satisfactorily", but the disparity between the first and second-half profits this year is unlikely to be as pronounced as last year, the board says. Pre-tax profits for 1978-79 reached a record £7.23m. The interim dividend, gross, is being increased from 3.85p (adjusted) to 5.71p to reduce the disparity between payments.

Strong sterling hits Photo-Me

In spite of the turnover of Photo-Me International expanding by 9.5 per cent to £13.11m in the six months to October 31, pre-tax profits were virtually unchanged at £1.43m, against £1.42m. The interim dividend is being raised from 3.15p to 4.5p gross. Profits were held back by the stronger pound and the almost doubling of VAT to 15 per cent.



Bowring is working well for Britain

In a year of increasing trading and economic difficulties with high interest rates, weakness of the dollar and ever increasing inflation, Bowring has shown marked steadiness in all sectors of the Group's world-wide operations.

These include Insurance broking—compares favourably with competitors; insurance underwriting—good year with outstanding results from Crusader; credit finance—Bowmaker affected by high borrowing costs; engineering—improvement despite difficult economic environment; merchant banking—Singer & Friedlander another year of progress; trading—profits maintained; shipping—substantial turnaround.

Results of C.T. Bowring & Co. Ltd. for the year 1979, subject to audit:

	1978	1979
Turnover	£m	
Profit before taxation	1280.9	13
Taxation	38.4	
Profit after taxation	18.4	
Minority	20.0	
Profit before extraordinary item	0.6	
Extraordinary item	19.4	
Available for Ordinary Shareholders	—	
Earnings per share	19.4	
	18.1p	



Awarded to C.T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings Ltd.

Bowring

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The Bowring Building, Tower Place,
London EC3P 3BE
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Stock Exchange Prices

Mines and oils in demand

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 10. Dealings End, Today. \$-Conango Day, March 24. Settlement Day, March 31.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

John Hoord

plant and machinery valuers

Low Stock			Price Change			Yield			1979-80			1980-81			1981-82			1982-83			1983-84			1984-85			1985-86			1986-87			1987-88			1988-89			1989-90			1990-91			1991-92			1992-93			1993-94			1994-95			1995-96			1996-97			1997-98			1998-99			1999-00			2000-01			2001-02			2002-03			2003-04			2004-05			2005-06			2006-07			2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11			2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17			2017-18			2018-19			2019-20			2020-21			2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			2024-25			2025-26			2026-27			2027-28			2028-29			2029-30			2030-31			2031-32			2032-33			2033-34			2034-35			2035-36			2036-37			2037-38			2038-39			2039-40			2040-41			2041-42			2042-43			2043-44			2044-45			2045-46			2046-47			2047-48			2048-49			2049-50			2050-51			2051-52			2052-53			2053-54			2054-55			2055-56			2056-57			2057-58			2058-59			2059-60			2060-61			2061-62			2062-63			2063-64			2064-65			2065-66			2066-67			2067-68			2068-69			2069-70			2070-71			2071-72			2072-73			2073-74			2074-75			2075-76			2076-77			2077-78			2078-79			2079-80			2080-81			2081-82			2082-83			2083-84			2084-85			2085-86			2086-87			2087-88			2088-89			2089-90			2090-91			2091-92			2092-93			2093-94			2094-95			2095-96			2096-97			2097-98			2098-99			2099-00			2100-01			2101-02			2102-03			2103-04			2104-05			2105-06			2106-07			2107-08			2108-09			2109-10			2110-11			2111-12			2112-13			2113-14			2114-15			2115-16			2116-17			2117-18			2118-19			2119-20			2120-21			2121-22			2122-23			2123-24			2124-25			2125-26			2126-27			2127-28			2128-29			2129-30			2130-31			2131-32			2132-33			2133-34			2134-35			2135-36			2136-37			2137-38			2138-39			2139-40			2140-41			2141-42			2142-43			2143-44			2144-45			2145-46			2146-47			2147-48			2148-49			2149-50			2150-51			2151-52			2152-53			2153-54			2154-55			2155-56			2156-57			2157-58			2158-59			2159-60			2160-61			2161-62			2162-63			2163-64			2164-65			2165-66			2166-67			2167-68			2168-69			2169-70			2170-71			2171-72			2172-73			2173-74			2174-75			2175-76			2176-77			2177-78			2178-79			2179-80			2180-81			2181-82			2182-83			2183-84			2184-85			2185-86			2186-87			2187-88			2188-89			2189-90			2190-91			2191-92			2192-93			2193-94			2194-95			2195-96			2196-97			2197-98			2198-99			2199-00			2200-01			2201-02			2202-03			2203-04			2204-05			2205-06			2206-07			2207-08			2208-09			2209-10			2210-11			2211-12			2212-13			2213-14			2214-15			2215-16			2216-17			2217-18			2218-19			2219-20			2220-21			2221-22			2222-23			2223-24			2224-25			2225-26			2226-27			2227-28			2228-29			2229-30			2230-31			2231-32			2232-33			2233-34			2234-35			2235-36			2236-37			2237-38			2238-39			2239-40			2240-41			2241-42			2242-43			2243-44			2244-45			2245-46			2246-47			2247-48			2248-49			2249-50			2250-51			2251-52			2252-53			2253-54			2254-55			2255-56			2256-57			2257-58			2258-59			2259-60			2260-61			2261-62			2262-63			2263-64			2264-65			2265-66			2266-67			2267-68			2268-69			2269-70			2270-71			2271-72			2272-73			2273-74			2274-75			2275-76			2276-77			2277-78			2278-79			2279-80			2280-81			2281-82			2282-83			2283-84			2284-85			2285-86			2286-87			2287-88			2288-89			2289-90			2290-91			2291-92			2292-93			2293-94			2294-95			2295-96			2296-97			2297-98			2298-99			2299-00			2300-01			2301-02			2302-03			2303-04			2304-05			2305-06			2306-07			2307-08			2308-09			2309-10			2310-11			2311-12			2312-13			2313-14			2314-15			2315-16			2316-17			2317-18			2318-19			2319-20			2320-21			2321-22			2322-23			2323-24			2324-25			2325-26			2326-27			2327-28			2328-29			2329-30			2330-31			2331-32			2332-33			2333-34			2334-35			2335-36			2336-37			2337-38			2338-39			2339-40			2340-41			2341-42			2342-43			2343-44			2344-45			2345-46			2346-47			2347-48			2348-49			2349-50			2350-51			2351-52			2352-53			2353-54			2354-55			2355-56			2356-57			2357-58			2358-59			2359-60			2360-61			2361-62			2362-63			2363-64			2364-65			2365-66			2366-67			2367-68			2368-69			2369-70			2370-71			2371-72			2372-73			2373-74			2374-75			2375-76			2376-77			2377-78			2378-79			2379-80			2380-81			2381-82			2382-83			2383-84			2384-85			2385-86			2386-87			2387-88			2388-89			2389-90			2390-91			2391-92			2392-93			2393-94			2394-95			2395-96			2396-97			2397-98			2398-99			2399-00			2400-01			2401-02			2402-03			2403-04			2404-05			2405-06			2406-07			2407-08			2408-09			2409-10			2410-11			2411-12			2412-13			2413-14			2414-15			2415-16			2416-17			2417-18			2418-19			2419-20			2420-21			2421-22			2422-23			2423-24			2424-25			2425-26			2426-27			2427-28			2428-29			2429-30			2430-31			2431-32			2432-33			2433-34			2434-35			2435-36			2436-37			2437-38			2438-39			2439-40			2440-41			2441-42			2442-43			2443-44			2444-45			2445-46			2446-47			2447-48			2448-49			2449-50			2450-51			2451-52			2452-53			2453-54			2454-55			2455-56			2456-57			2457-58			2458-59			2459-60			2460-61			2461-62			2462-63			2463-64			2464-65			2465-66			2466-67			2467-68			2468-69			2469-70			2470-71			2471-72			2472-73			2473-74			2474-75			2475-76			2476-77			247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